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*Notified in Army Orders for June, 1935*



**MANUAL  
OF  
ELEMENTARY DRILL  
(ALL ARMS)**

**1935**

LONDON  
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**OF**  
**ELEMENTARY DRILL**  
**(ALL ARMS)**

*Shaw*  

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**1935**

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LONDON

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# MANUAL

OF

## ELEMENTARY DRILL

(ALL ARMS)

By Command of the Army Council,

*H. G. Creed*

THE WAR OFFICE,  
30th June, 1935.



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## DEFINITIONS

*Alignment.*—Any straight line on which a body of troops is formed or is to form.

*Covering.*—The act of a body placing itself directly in rear of another.

*Crew.*—(Royal Tank Corps only.) The unit of dismounted drill, the size of a crew depending on the establishment of a unit and the type of tank. For purposes of instruction in dismounted drill a crew consists of eight men.

*Depth.*—The space occupied by a body of troops from front to rear.

*Directing file, section, etc.*—The file or section responsible for keeping direction in a movement.

*Distance.*—The space between men or bodies of troops from front to rear.

*Dress, to.*—To take up the alignment correctly, or maintain it correctly on the move.

*File.*—A front rank man with his rear rank man.

*NOTE.*—A front rank man without a rear rank man is called a "blank file".

*Flank, directing.*—The flank by which units march or dress.

*Flank, inner.*—That nearer to the directing flank.

*Flank, outer.*—That opposite to the inner or directing flank.

*Front.*—The direction in which troops are facing or moving at any given time.

*Frontage.*—The extent of ground covered laterally by a body of troops.

*Incline.*—The diagonal movement by which ground is gained to the front and flank simultaneously, without altering the alignment.

*Interval.*—The lateral space between men or units on the same alignment.

*Extended interval.*—An increased interval to suit requirements.

*Close interval.*—A reduced interval to suit requirements.

*Line.*—Troops formed on the same alignment.

*Markers.*—Men employed in certain circumstances to mark points on which to direct a drill movement or by which to regulate a formation or alignment.

*Pace.*—A measurement of distance on foot (i.e., 30 inches). Also rate of movement.

*Pivot.*—The flank on which a body wheels. The man on that flank is termed the "pivot man".

*Fixed pivot.*—The term applied to the pivot when, during the wheel, the pivot man turns on his own ground.

*Moving pivot.*—The term applied to the pivot when, during the wheel, the pivot man moves on the arc of a circle.

*Rank.*—A line of men, side by side.

**Section.**—The meaning differs in the different arms, as follows :—

**Cavalry.**—A subdivision of a troop. A sabre section consists of four front-rank men with their coverers, if any; a half-section (sabre) consists of two front-rank men and their coverers, if any.

**R.A.**—A subdivision of a battery. When used with reference to foot drill, it consists of four front-rank men with their coverers, if any; a half-section consists of two front-rank men and their coverers, if any.

**R.E.**—A subdivision of a field company, similar to a platoon of infantry.

**Infantry.**—A subdivision of a platoon.

**Royal Tank Corps.**—A subdivision of a company.

**R.A.S.C.**—A subdivision of a company.

**Serrefiles.**—Such officers and other ranks of mounted units as may be detailed to ride in rear of the unit when in line.

**Single file.**—Troops on the frontage of one man.

**Squad.**—A small body of men formed for drill. (For Royal Tank Corps, see *Crew*.)

**Supernumeraries.**—The N.C.Os., etc., of dismounted units forming the third rank.

**Wheeling.**—A movement by which a body of troops brings forward a flank on a fixed or moving pivot.

## MANUAL OF ELEMENTARY DRILL, 1935

(ALL ARMS)

### INTRODUCTION

1. This manual has been arranged primarily for the use of N.C.Os. of all arms of the Service, but its contents should also be known by all officers.

2. The manual deals with the following subjects :—

i. *Elementary drill*, up to and including squad drill in two ranks (except troop drill (dismounted) in the case of cavalry) and drill with the rifle, revolver and sword.

ii. Guards and sentries.

iii. Those details of march discipline which all N.C.Os. should know.

3. Where drill varies in different arms of the Service, explanatory notes have been inserted at the beginning of the chapters and sections concerned.

4. The drill of rifle and English light infantry regiments is dealt with separately in Chapter VII.

### CHAPTER I

#### SQUAD DRILL—GENERAL

(Applies to All Arms, except Sec. 3 as noted)

##### 1. General instructions for drilling recruits

1. One of the objects of drill is to teach troops by exercise to obey orders and to do so in the correct way. For this reason slovenly drill is harmful; all movements on parade will be performed smartly. Noisy stamping of the feet in such movements as turning, coming to attention, or standing at ease is forbidden.

2. The detail of drill movements as given in the following sections is for the information of instructors only. It will not be repeated word for word to the men on parade.

3. When recruits are being taught a particular motion or exercise, the instructor will first form the squad round him and explain what is required in simple language. As soon as he is satisfied that his meaning is clear, he will proceed to the second stage—demonstration—by performing the motion himself. During this stage he will point out details he has already described, and give examples of common faults. The men will then be made to perform the movement themselves, first by numbers and subsequently judging the time, the instructor taking each in turn and correcting faults.

4. Recruits will be taught that when on parade it is the duty of every man to see that he is at all times in the correct dressing from whichever flank is the directing flank. This principle applies both when falling in and during and on the completion of all parade movements, except that in ceremonial drill men will not correct their dressing on the completion of a movement until they receive the command *Right* (or *Left*)—*Dress*.

5. Men should be given frequent short rests between exercises.

6. With practice, men will be able to stand steady in the ranks for long periods without effort, but, at first, they should not be kept in any position long enough to produce strain or fatigue. When the men of a squad are being tested separately in any movement those not under instruction at the moment should be ordered to stand easy or to continue practising the movement.

7. In drill movements which have two or more motions, recruits should be taught to make a uniform short pause after each motion when judging the time.

## 2. Words of command

1. Good drill depends in the first instance on good words of command.

2. Young officers and N.C.Os. will be practised in giving words of command. This practice gives them confidence in themselves and accustoms them to use their voice in the best manner to produce the desired result. Words of command should be pronounced distinctly and loud enough to be heard by all concerned. A word of command to a squad of six men need not be as loud as a command to a battalion.

3. Commands which consist of one word will be preceded by a caution, which may be part of the word itself. The first or cautionary part of a word of command, will be given deliberately and distinctly: the last or executive part, which, as a rule, should consist of only one word or syllable, will be given sharply: as *Platoon* (slowly)—*Halt* (sharply): *Right* (slowly)—*Form* (sharply). A pause, which should be uniform in all commands, will be made between the caution and the executive word of command.

4. The cautions and commands in this manual are, as a rule, given with regard to one flank only, but the same principles apply equally to movements to the other flank, which will also be practised.

5. Words of command must be given at all times with precision by all ranks; indistinct and slovenly words of command produce slovenly movements and must be avoided.

6. Instructors when giving words of command must stand at attention and themselves adopt a correct bearing, and so be an example of alertness to their men.

7. It should be remembered that a word of command is an order which must be smartly and promptly obeyed.

Instructors must observe the result of their commands at drill and check any tendency on the part of the men to carry out a movement in a slovenly manner; for instance, when men are called to attention or are ordered to stand at ease absolute steadiness and silence must be insisted on. Plenty of time should therefore be taken over the correct performance of one movement before proceeding with the next. If faults and slack habits are passed over in the early stages they will, in time, undermine discipline without which no troops can train or fight.

When it is desired to resume the position which obtained immediately prior to the last word of command, the command *As you were* may be given.

8. The words of command laid down for use in close order drill are not intended for use in movements in the field. They are designed with a view to training the soldier's mind and body to habits of strict obedience to the will of the leader. In movements in the field, words of command will be replaced by short instructions, e.g. *along this track in single file*; *follow me across this bridge*; *get under cover of this bank*, etc.



9. The following table shows when to give words of command to men on the move during close order drill :—

Word of command (a)	Slow time (b)	Quick time (c)
<b>Halt.</b>	Left foot coming to the ground.	Right foot passing left.
About <b>Turn.</b>	Right foot coming to the ground.	Left foot passing right.
Right <b>Turn.</b>	Left foot passing and level with right.	Right foot passing left.
„ In— <b>Cline.</b>		
„ <b>Form.</b>		
Left <b>Turn.</b>	Right foot passing and level with left.	Left foot passing right.
„ In— <b>Cline.</b>		
„ <b>Form.</b>		
For— <b>Ward.</b> (When marking time.)	Right foot being raised.	Left foot being raised.
Break into Quick Time, Quick <b>March.</b>	“Quick” as left foot reaches ground, “March” as right foot reaches ground. (Alternate feet.)	—
Break into Slow Time, Slow <b>March.</b>	—	Left foot passing right.
Mark <b>Time.</b>	—	—
<b>Halt.</b> (When marking time.)	Right foot passing left. As for Forward.	Left foot passing right.
<i>Dismounted units only (except R.T.C. See Sec. 41, 15).</i>		
Form <b>Fours</b> (front rank in front).	Right foot passing and level with left.	Left foot passing right.
Form <b>Two-Deep</b> (front rank in front).		
Form <b>Fours</b> (rear rank in front).	Left foot passing and level with right.	Right foot passing left.
Form <b>Two-Deep</b> (rear rank in front).		
Form <b>Squad</b> (right leading).	Left foot coming to the ground.	Right foot passing left.
Form <b>Squad</b> (left leading).	Right foot coming to the ground.	Left foot passing right.

10. To move off a unit in step with the preceding unit the command *March* should be given as the right feet of the preceding unit are coming to the ground.

11. In the detail of squad drill the title of the movement is shown in *italics* and is followed by the cautionary and/or executive word of command in **thick type**. Cautions and words of command referred to in the detail are printed in *italics*.

### 3. Inspection

(Paragraph 1 of this section does not apply to Royal Artillery or Royal Tank Corps Units)

1. Whenever a squad, parading in two ranks, is to be inspected the ranks will be opened for the inspection or closed on its completion by the following orders :—

**Open order—March.** The rear rank will step back two paces and dress by the right.

**Close order—March.** The rear rank will step forward two paces, and dress by the right.

2. The instructor will pay attention to the personal cleanliness of the men as well as to the care of their arms, equipment, and clothing. A clean and smart turn-out must be insisted on at all times. In this respect instructors must set a high standard for young soldiers to emulate. Men learn good habits more quickly by example than by other methods.

3. Instructors will be trained in methods of inspection so that, with practice, they will be able to tell at a glance whether each man on parade is correctly turned out or not.

4. A man ordered to adjust his dress will take a pace forward if in the front rank, or a pace to the rear if in the rear rank; on completion he will regain his place in the ranks by taking a pace to the rear, or forward as the case may be.

## CHAPTER II

## SQUAD DRILL IN SINGLE RANK—WITHOUT ARMS

(Applies to All Arms except where notes to the contrary are shown)

## SQUAD DRILL WITH INTERVALS

## 4. Formation of squads with intervals

1. A few men will be placed in single rank at arm's length apart; while so formed, they will be termed a squad with intervals.

2. Instruction can best be imparted to a squad in single rank, but, if want of space makes it necessary, the squad may consist of two ranks, in which case the men of the rear rank will cover the intervals between the men in the front rank, so that in marching they may take their own points, as directed in Sec. 11, 4.

3. When recruits have learned to dress as described in Sec. 8, they will be taught to fall in, and to dress and correct their intervals immediately without any further order.

4. Care must be taken that the positions of recruits in the ranks are changed frequently, as they must be taught to drill correctly in any position in the squad.

## 5. Attention

## Squad—Attention.

Spring up to the following position:—Heels together and in line. Feet turned out at an angle of about 45\* degrees. Knees straight. Body erect and carried evenly over the thighs, with the shoulders (which should be level and square to the front) down and moderately back—this should bring the chest to its natural forward position without any straining or stiffening. Arms hanging from the shoulders as straight as the natural bend of the arm will allow. Wrists straight. Hands closed but not clenched. Backs of the fingers touching the thigh lightly, thumb to the front and close to the fore-

\* Cavalry 30 degrees.

finger, thumb immediately behind the seam of the trousers. Neck erect. Head balanced evenly on the neck and not poked forward, eyes looking their own height and straight to the front.

The weight of the body should be balanced on both feet and evenly distributed between the fore-part of the feet and the heels.

The breathing must not in any way be restricted, and no part of the body should be either drawn in or pushed out.

The position is one of readiness in expectation of the word of command, and is that adopted when addressing, or being addressed by, a superior officer.

## 6. Standing at ease

## Stand at—Ease.

Carry the left foot about 12 inches to the left so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet. At the same time carry the hands behind the back and place the back of the right hand in the palm of the left, grasping it lightly with the finger and thumb, and allowing the arms to hang at their full extent.

i. In marching order without the rifle the arms will be retained as in the position of attention.

ii. When a recruit falls in he will stand at ease after he has got his dressing.

## 7. Standing easy

## Stand—Easy.

The limbs, head, and body may be moved but the man will not move his feet, so that on coming to attention there will be no loss of dressing. Slouching attitudes are not to be permitted. If either foot is moved men are inclined to lose their dressing.

On the caution *squad, etc.*, the correct position of stand at ease will be assumed.

## 8. Dressing a squad with intervals

## Right—Dress.

Each recruit, except the right-hand man, will turn his head and eyes to the right and at the same time extend his right arm, back of the hand upwards, finger tips touching the shoulder of the man on his right. He will then take up

his dressing in line by moving, with short quick steps, till he is just able to distinguish the lower part of the face of the second man beyond him. Care must be taken to carry the body backward or forward with the feet, the shoulders being kept perfectly square in their original position.

#### Eyes—Front.

The head and eyes will be turned smartly to the front, the arm cut away to the side, and the position of attention resumed.

### 9. Turning by numbers

#### 1. Turning to the Right—One.

Keeping both knees straight and the body erect, turn to the right on the right heel and left toe, raising the left heel and right toe in doing so.

On the completion of this preliminary movement, the right foot must be flat on the ground and the left heel raised; both knees straight, and the weight of the body, which must be erect, on the right foot.

#### Two.

Bring the left foot smartly up to the right.

#### 2. Turning to the Left—One.

As for above, except for *right* read *left* and vice versa.

#### Two.

Bring the right foot smartly up to the left.

#### 3. Turning About—One.

Keeping both knees straight and the body erect, turn to the right-about on the right heel and left toe, raising the right toe and left heel in doing so, but keeping the right heel firmly on the ground.

On the completion of this preliminary movement the right foot must be flat on the ground and the left heel raised; both knees straight, and the weight of the body, which must be erect, on the right foot.

#### Two.

Bring the left foot smartly up to the right.

4. *Inclining* is similar to turning, except that a half turn is made instead of a full turn.

5. Throughout all turns the arms must be kept close to the sides as in the position of attention.

6. In turning "*judging the time*" commands are *Right* (or *Left*) or *About—Turn*, *Right* (or *Left*) *In—cline*; the movements described above will be carried out on the command *Turn* or *In—cline*, observing the two distinct motions.

### 10. Length of pace and time in marching

1. *Length of pace*.—In slow and in quick time the length of a pace is 30 inches. In stepping out it is 33 inches, in double time, 40; in stepping short, 21; and in the side pace, 12 inches.

When a soldier takes a side pace to clear or cover another (as in forming fours), the pace will be 24 inches.

2. *Time*.—In *slow time* 70 paces are taken in one minute. In *quick time* 120 paces, equal to 100 yards in a minute, are taken. Except during the first weeks of recruit training, recruits, when not in marching order, will take 130 paces a minute in quick time at drill.

In *double time* 180 paces, equal to 200 yards a minute, are taken.

Distances of 100 and 200 yards will be marked on the drill ground, and N.C.Os. and men practised in keeping correct time and length of pace.

### 11. Position in marching \*

1. In marching, the soldier will maintain the position of the head and body as directed in Sec. 5. He must be well balanced. In slow time his arms and hands must be kept steady by his sides. In quick time the arms, which should be as straight as their natural bend will allow, should swing naturally from the shoulder, hands reaching as high as the waist belt in front and rear. Hands should be kept closed but not clenched, thumbs always to the front.

2. The legs should be swung forward freely and naturally from the hip joints, each leg as it swings forward being bent sufficiently at the knee to enable the foot to clear the ground. The foot should be carried straight to the front, and, without being drawn back, placed upon the ground with the knee straight, but so as not to jerk the body.

\* The drum and pace stick are useful aids in teaching recruits to preserve a regular cadence and correct length of pace in marching, and they should be used frequently when available.



3. Although several recruits may be drilled together in a squad with intervals, they must act independently, precisely as if they were being instructed singly. They will thus learn to march in a straight line, and to take a correct pace, both as regards length and time, without reference to the other men of the squad.

4. Before the squad is put in motion the instructor will take care that each man is square to the front and in correct line with the remainder. The recruit will be taught to take a point straight to his front, by fixing his eyes upon some distant object, and then observing some nearer point in the same straight line. The same procedure will be followed by the man on the named flank or by the named number, when marching in other formations (see Sec. 22).

## 12. Marching in quick and slow time

### 1. The quick march.

#### The Squad will Advance. Quick—March.

The squad will step off together with the left foot, in quick time, observing the rules in Sec. 11.

### 2. The slow march.

During recruit training squad drill should be frequently practised in slow time only. The executive word of command will be *Slow—March*. The men will step off and march as described for *Quick March*, but in slow time, and keeping the arms and hands steady at the sides, thumbs to the front. Each leg will be brought forward in one even motion and will be straightened as it comes to the front with the toes pointed downwards and placed on the ground before the heel.

### 3. The halt.

#### Squad—Halt.

A pace of 30 inches will be completed with the left foot and the right foot brought up in line with it. At the same time the right hand will be cut smartly to the side.

### 4. Stepping out.

#### Step—Out.

The moving foot will complete its pace, and the soldier will lengthen the pace by three inches, leaning forward a little, but without altering the time.

This step is used when a slight increase of speed, without an alteration of time, is required; on the command *Quick (or Slow)—March* the normal length of pace will be resumed.

### 5. Stepping short.

#### Step—Short.

The foot advancing will complete its pace, after which the pace will be shortened by nine inches until the command *Quick (or Slow)—March* is given, when the normal length of pace will be resumed.

### 6. Marking time.

#### Mark—Time.

The foot then advancing will complete its pace, after which the time will be continued, without advancing, by raising each foot alternately about six inches, keeping the feet almost parallel with the ground, the knees raised to the front, the arms steady at the sides, and the body steady. On the command *For—ward*, the pace at which the men were moving will be resumed.

In slow time the feet should be raised twelve inches when marking time, the ball of the foot being immediately below the point of the knee, toes pointing downwards.

### 7. Stepping back from the halt.

#### ... Paces. Step back—March.

Step back the named number of paces of 30 inches straight to the rear, commencing with the left foot, keeping the arms still by the sides.

Stepping back should not exceed four paces.

## 13. Changing step

### 1. When on the march.

#### Change—Step.

The advancing foot will complete its pace, and the ball of the rear foot will be brought up to the heel of the advanced one, which will make another step forward, so that the time will not be lost, two successive steps being taken with the same foot.

### 2. When marking time.

#### Change—Step.

Make two successive beats with the same foot.

### 14. Marching in double time

#### 1. *The double march.*

#### The Squad will Advance. Double—March.

Step off with the left foot and double on the toes with easy swinging strides, inclining the body slightly forward, but maintaining its correct carriage. The feet must be picked up cleanly from the ground, at each pace, and the thigh, knee, and ankle joints must all work freely and without stiffness. The whole body should be carried forward by a thrust from the rear foot without unnecessary effort. The heels must not be raised towards the seat, but the foot carried straight to the front and the toes placed lightly on the ground. The arms should swing easily from the shoulders and should be bent at the elbow, the forearm forming an angle of about 135 degrees with the upper arm (i.e. midway between a straight arm and a right angle at the elbow), fists slightly clenched, backs of the hands outwards, and the arms swung sufficiently clear of the body to allow of full freedom for the chest. The shoulders should be kept steady and square to the front and the head erect.

#### 2. *The halt.*

#### Squad—Halt.

As in Sec. 12, 3, at the same time cutting away the hands to the position of attention.

#### 3. *Marking time.*

#### Mark—Time.

Act as in Sec. 12, 6, the arms and hands being carried as when marching in double time, but without swinging the arms.

### 15. The side step

#### 1. *Closing to the right (or left).*

#### Right (or Left) Close—March, or . . . Paces Right (or Left) Close—March.

Each man will carry his right foot 12 inches direct to the right, and instantly close his left foot to it, thus completing the pace; he will proceed to take the next pace in the same manner. Shoulders to be kept square. The direction must be kept in a straight line to the flank, and a uniform pause made after each pace. The number of specified paces should not exceed four.

#### 2. *The halt.*

#### Squad—Halt.

The command *Halt* will be given when the number of paces has not been specified. The command will be given when the heels are together; the squad will then take a further pace in the direction ordered, and remain steady.

3. Soldiers should not usually be moved to a flank by the side step more than 12 paces.

### 16. Turning when on the march

#### 1. *Right (or Left)—Turn.*

On the command *Right (or Left)—Turn* the *left (or right)* foot will be brought forward until it is just in front of the *right (or left)* foot, and each man will then turn smartly in the required direction, using his *left (or right)* foot as a pivot, and advance a full pace of 30 inches in the new direction with the *right (or left)* foot.

The turn to the right must be made off the left foot and to the left off the right foot.

#### 2. *About—Turn.*

Complete the pace with the right foot, then commence the turn with the left foot, the turn being completed in three beats of the time in which the soldier is marching. Having completed the turn about, the soldier will at once move forward, the fourth pace being a full one and taken with the right foot.

In the case of a squad with a blank file, marching in line, the blank file will mark time two paces on the word *about*, thus gaining his position in the new front rank before the turn is completed. Guides should act in a similar manner.

#### 3. *Right (or Left) In—cline.*

On the command *In—cline*, make a half turn in the required direction.

4. Turnings and changes on the march should always be preceded by a cautionary word of command, e.g. *The squad will move to the right—The squad will advance—Break into slow time—Diagonal march, etc.*

### 17. Saluting without arms

(See also Sec. 28.)

#### 1. *Saluting to the front.*

##### i. *By Numbers.*

**Salute by Numbers—One.**

Bring the right hand smartly, with a circular motion, to the head, palm to the front, fingers extended and close together, point of the forefinger an inch above the right eye, or touching edge of peak of cap, as in illustration, thumb close to the forefinger; elbow in line, and nearly square with the shoulder, tips of the fingers, wrist and elbow in a straight line. (See Plate I.)

**Two.**

Cut away the arm smartly to the side by the shortest way.

ii. *Judging the time.*

**Salute, Judging the Time—Salute.**

Go through the motions as in sub-para. i, above, making a pause equal to two paces in quick time between each motion.

**2. Saluting to the side.**

Saluting to the side when on the move is carried out as in para. 1, above, on the command *Salute*, except that, as the hand is brought to the salute, the head will be turned smartly towards the officer or instructor saluted as the left foot comes to the ground. For saluting with a cane, see Sec. 28, 6.

**3. Saluting on the march.**

On the command *Eyes—right* (or *left*) and *Eyes—front*, squads will turn their head and eyes to the right (or left) and to the front, as the left foot comes to the ground. The same principle applies for a squad with arms.

**SQUAD DRILL IN SINGLE RANK****18. Formation of squads in single rank**

Recruits will at this stage be formed in single rank without intervals, each man occupying a lateral space of 24 inches. Thus ten men occupy eight paces. The accuracy of the space should be frequently tested. Squads will fall in and dress by the right unless otherwise ordered.

NOTES. 1.—*Cavalry and Royal Tank Corps*.—An assistant instructor or more advanced recruit will be placed as leader, three paces in front of the squad.

2.—*Cavalry*.—The man immediately in rear of the leader is called the centre guide.

When any movement is made the leader will give the appropriate signal. (See Cavalry Training.)

**19. Dressing in single rank****Right (or Left)—Dress.**

1. Each man, except the man on the named flank, will look towards the flank by which he is to dress with a smart turn of the head, and, commencing with the man nearest the flank by which the dressing is made will move up or back to his place successively. To dress correctly each man must be able to see the lower part of the face of the man next but one to him. When the squad is correctly dressed the instructor will give the command *Eyes—Front*.

2. The above method will be taught for use on ceremonial parades only. On all other occasions each man will take up his dressing from the directing flank \* without any word of command, each man in succession turning his head and eyes to the front when in the correct alignment.

**20. Numbering a squad and proving****1. Numbering.****Squad—Number.**

The squad will number off from the right, the right-hand man calling out *One*, the next on his left *Two*, and so on.

In cavalry and Royal Artillery, each man, except the left-hand man, as he calls out his number will turn his head smartly towards his left and will at once turn it to the front again.

In all other arms each man as he calls out his number will keep his head steady and continue to look straight to his front.

2. *Proving*.—If men are ordered to “*Prove*” (i.e. **Odd (or Even) numbers—Prove**) those so ordered stretch out their right hands to the full extent of the arm, palm to the left, fingers extended and close together, and level with the top of the shoulder.

When parading with rifles at the *order*, the left hand will be stretched out in a similar manner.

**As you were.**

Those proving bring their right (or left) hands smartly to the side, without keeping the elbow too stiff.

\* Cavalry and Royal Tank Corps.—Dressing is by the centre, except at ceremonial drill.



## 21. Opening and closing a squad

### 1. Open Ranks—March.

The odd numbers will take two paces forward and dress by the right.

### 2. Reform Ranks—March.

The odd numbers will step back two paces ; when the paces are completed the squad will dress as in Sec. 19, 2.

## 22. Marching in single rank

### 1. To advance in quick time.

**The Squad will Advance. By the Right (or Left or By No....), Quick—March.**

As in Sec. 12, 1. Each man will preserve his position in the general line by an occasional glance towards the directing man, who will act as in Sec. 11, 4.

### 2. To advance in double time.

**The Squad will Advance. By the Right (or Left or By No....), Double—March.**

As in para. 1, above, but in double time.

## 23. Changing the pace from quick to double time, and vice versa

### 1. From quick time to double time.

**Break into double time. Double—March.**

Complete the next pace in quick time and then continue in double time as in Sec. 14.

### 2. From double time to quick time.

**Break into quick time. Quick—March.**

Complete the next pace in double time and then break into quick time, dropping the arms to their usual position.

## 24. The diagonal march. (Plate II, Fig. 1.)

*The right diagonal march.*

**Diagonal march. Right In—cline.**

Each man will make a half turn in the required direction, and, if on the march, will move diagonally in that direction, as in Sec. 16.

## 25. Changing direction. (Plate II, Fig. 2.)

(This section does not apply to Cavalry and Royal Tank Corps units.)

### 1. Royal Artillery.

*Wheeling.*

Recruits will first be taught to wheel from the halt, after which they will be instructed to wheel while on the march. It will be explained to the squad that, in wheeling, the flank which is brought forward is termed the outer flank ; the other, the inner or pivot flank.

The method of wheeling will be the same as laid down in Sec. 31, 6.

### 2. Royal Engineers, Infantry and R.A.S.C.

#### i. When halted.

**Change direction Right. Right—Form.**

The right-hand man will make a full turn in the required direction, and the remainder a right incline.

**Quick—March.**

The right-hand man will lead on two paces and mark time, and the remainder will mark time in succession when they come up into the new alignment.

**For—ward.**

The squad will move forward in the new direction.

#### ii. When on the move.

**Change direction Right. Right—Form.**

The right-hand man will make a full turn in the required direction, lead on two paces, and mark time ; the remainder will incline to the right and mark time in succession as they come up into the new alignment.

**For—ward.**

The squad will move forward in the new direction.

iii. If the command is preceded by the caution *At the Halt*, each man will halt and take up his dressing on reaching the new alignment.

iv. Forming at any angle will be practised.

## 26. Marching in single file

(This section does not apply to Cavalry and Royal Tanks Corps units.)

Only paragraphs 1 to 3 apply to Royal Artillery.)

### 1. From the halt.

Move to the Right (or Left) in single file. Right (or Left) —Turn.

As in Sec. 9. The men will cover each other exactly.

### Quick—March.

The whole will step off, without increasing or diminishing the distance from each other.

i. This movement will also be practised on the move.

ii. Should the squad be required to move in the original direction the command will be—*The squad will advance. Left (or Right)—Turn.*

### 2. Changing direction.

**Change direction Right. Right—Wheel.**

The leading man will move round a quarter of the circumference of a circle, having a radius of four feet. The other men, in succession, will follow in his footsteps without increasing or diminishing their distances from each other or altering the time, but shortening the pace a little with the inner foot.

### 3. Rear Files—Cover.

If the squad is halted or ordered to mark time when only a part of the men have wheeled into the new direction, the men who have not yet wheeled will cover off on those who have, moving to their places by the shortest route.

### 4. Forming squad. (Plate II, Fig. 3.)

**On the Left (or Right), Form—Squad.**

The leading man will lead on two paces and mark time, the remainder will make a left (or right) incline and move up into line with him, marking time as they come into line.

### For—ward.

The squad will move on in line in the direction in which it was originally marching in file.

When squad is formed on the right the left will normally be ordered to direct.

5. If the order is :—

**At the Halt, on the Left (or Right), Form—Squad.**

The leading man will lead on two paces and halt, the remainder will make a left (or right) incline and form upon him, halting and dressing as they come into line.

## 27. Dismissing without arms.

**Squad. Dis—miss.**

The squad will turn to the right, salute,\* and, after a pause equal to four paces in quick time, break off quietly and leave the parade ground in quick time.

If no officer is on parade the men will not salute before they break off.

## 28. Drill with the cane (or whip)

### 1. Position of cane at attention.

The cane will be held firmly in the right hand, in a perpendicular position close to the right side of the body, first joint of the forefinger of the right hand underneath knob of cane and pointing towards the thigh, thumb across the front of the cane, the remaining three fingers grasping the cane.

### 2. Position of cane when standing at ease.

The back of the right hand in the palm of the left. Cane to be between the right arm and the body, ferrule (or loop) pointing obliquely upwards and to the right front.

### 3. Position of the cane on the march.

On the command *Quick—March*, step off as described in Sec. 11. As the left foot comes to the ground the first time bring both hands smartly to the centre of the cane (one movement), cane to be kept perpendicular in the right side. As the left foot comes to the ground the second time, cut the left hand to the side, and carry the cane to the right side, cane to be carried parallel to the ground, balanced between the thumb and the first two fingers, ferrule to the front. The arms to be swung as in marching without canes, but the cane must be kept parallel to the ground.

The cane is now at the *trail*.

If the squad is moving in file, the cane will be carried in the position of attention.

\* The head and eyes will not be turned towards the officer.

4. *Halt*ing.

On receiving the command *Halt*, canes will be kept at the trail. After a slight pause, canes will be brought to the position of attention in two movements, viz. :—

- i. Seize the cane with the left hand at the centre and bring to a perpendicular position at the right side, at the same time move the right hand to the knob of the cane as in position of attention.
- ii. Cut the left hand smartly away to the side.

5. *Turning about*.

*When halted*.—The cane is kept in position of attention.

*On the march*.—On the first movement of the turn (left foot), the cane will be brought to a perpendicular position in front of the right shoulder, upper part of the arm close to the side, forearm horizontal, hand in line with the waist-belt. On the first pace (right foot) after the completion of the turn, the cane will be brought to the trail.

6. *Saluting when carrying a cane*.

To the front (practice for delivering messages to or addressing officers).

**Salute to the Front—Salute.**

The command *Salute* will be given as the right foot passes the left (as for *Halt*). The squad will halt, judge a pause equal to two paces in quick time, place cane smartly under left arm, ferrule to the rear, cut the right hand smartly to the side—salute, transfer written message to right hand and deliver it to (or address) the officer, salute again, turn about, keeping cane under left arm, and march off in quick time. As the left foot comes to the ground the first time seize the cane with the right hand as near the centre as possible, with the back of the hand uppermost, thumb underneath. On the left foot coming to the ground again bring the cane smartly to the trail.

7. *On the move when carrying a cane*.**Salute to the Right (or Left)—Salute.**

The command *Salute* is given as the right foot is coming to the ground. As the left foot comes to the ground the first time after the word "*Salute*", place the cane smartly under the left arm, ferrule to the rear. Next time the left foot comes to the ground (third pace) cut the right hand smartly

away to the side and commence the salute on the fifth pace, turning the head towards the officer saluted. On the tenth pace (right foot) cut the right hand smartly away to the side, turning the head to the front. On left foot coming to the ground (eleventh pace) seize the cane with the right hand as near the centre as possible, back of the hand uppermost, thumb underneath. On the left foot coming to the ground (thirteenth pace) bring the cane smartly to the right side at the trail. The left arm is not to be swung during the salute. All cane movements are carried out on the beat of the left foot.

8. *Dismissing with the cane*.

If an officer is on parade, on the command *Dis—miss*, the squad will turn to the right, place the cane under the left arm, ferrule to the rear, cut the right hand to the side, salute (without turning the head and eyes), and break off in quick time. Movements will be carried out at the same pace as in quick time, the hand being cut away to the side on the fourth pace.

If no officer is on parade, the squad will, on the command *Dis—miss*, turn to the right, keeping the cane in position of attention.



## CHAPTER III

## SQUAD DRILL IN TWO RANKS

**NOTE.**—In place of squad drill in two ranks, *Cavalry and Royal Engineers (Field Squadrons only)* will be trained in Troop Drill (Dismounted) as laid down in Cavalry Training.

## PART I—ROYAL ARTILLERY

## 29. Formation of a squad in two ranks

The men will take their places in succession from the right, each occupying a lateral space of 24 inches. The rear rank will be at three paces distance from the front rank. If the squad consists of an uneven number of men the second man from the left of the front rank will be a blank file.

## 30. Telling off and proving

1. *Telling off.***From the Right, Tell off by—Fours.**

The right-hand man of the front rank will number himself *One*, the man on his left *Two*, and so on to the fifth man, who will then begin a fresh sequence by numbering himself *One*.

Men will turn their heads in numbering, as laid down in Sec. 20, 1.

2. *Proving flanks of fours.***Flanks of Fours—Prove.**

Each number 1 and 4 in the front rank and their rear rank men will prove as laid down in Sec. 20, 2.

## 31. Movements

1. When moving in sections of fours or half-sections, if there should be an incomplete unit on the left, the files will open out to cover the front of the whole unit. Should the incomplete unit consist of only half the number of files in the full unit, or less, the rear rank will move up on the left of, and in line with, its front rank.

2. When on the move, increasing or decreasing the front on foot, the pace will not be increased, but the front or rear will be ordered to mark time as necessary.

3. N.C.Os. or more advanced recruits should be posted on the flanks of the front rank and the point of direction for dressing will be given to one or other flank as a rule. These men are termed flank guides and do not tell off.

*Dressing.*—For ceremonial purposes men will be taught to dress on the word of command "Right (or Left)—Dress". Both ranks will act as in Sec. 19, 1.

Normally, however, in squad drill, each man will take up his dressing without further word of command on completion of the movement, both ranks acting as in Sec. 19, 2, and the rear rank covering correctly the front rank.

Distances between ranks, when in section of fours, half-sections and files, will be 3 paces,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  paces and 1 pace respectively, according to the formation.

4. *The march in line.***The Squad will Advance, By the Right Quick (or Slow)—March.**

On the command *March*, the whole squad will move off together at the pace ordered.

The principles which regulate the march in line are:—

- i. Strict uniformity of pace.
  - ii. Correct direction.
  - iii. Correct intervals and distances without crowding.
- Every man looking straight to the front, except for an occasional glance to the flank of direction.
- iv. If there is a blank file he will always be with the leading rank.

5. *The diagonal march or incline.***Right (or Left) In—cline.**

On the command *In—cline*, each man will turn half right (or left). The rear rank will move in the same manner, regulating itself by the front rank, so that each individual would cover the corresponding front rank number if both were turned to the front.

The flank guide of the directing flank having made the half turn, will pick up a point on which to march, and move forward at the original pace. The remainder of the men will

move parallel to him, preserving the same relative direction and position with regard to each other as when the turn was first made.

**NOTE.**—Should the squad be required to move in the original direction the command will be *The Squad will advance (or Retire). Left (or Right) In—cline.*

#### 6. *Wheeling.*

#### **Change Direction Right (or Left). Right (or Left)—Wheel.**

On the command *Wheel*, the inner flank guide will mark time, looking to the outer flank and coming gradually round with his rank.

The outer flank guide will look inwards, regulating his direction so as to maintain the same extent of front. The remainder will look towards the outer flank and feel towards the inner flank in order to preserve their dressing and position throughout the wheel.

The arms will not be swung while wheeling.

As soon as the front rank begins to wheel the rear rank men gain ground towards the outer flank by a combination of inclining and wheeling.

The wheel continues until the required degree has been obtained and the order *Halt* or *For—ward* has been given.

#### 7. *To change direction.*

#### **Head Right (or Left)—Wheel.**

The leading section of fours will wheel to its right (or left) through 90 degrees. The movement will be carried out to the time of 4 paces at the rate of march. The rear sections of fours, stepping short, will continue to their front until they arrive on the same ground as where the leading section of fours wheeled.

The arms will not be swung while wheeling, and the head and eyes kept to the front.

#### 8. *Decreasing the front from the halt.*

#### **Advance in Fours from the Right. Quick—March.**

The right section of fours will advance, followed by the next on its left, which will incline so as to cover the leading section. The remainder will follow in succession marking time until it comes to their turn to move off.

#### **Advance in Half-sections from the Right. Quick—March.**

Nos. 1 and 2 of the right section of fours, followed by their rear rank men will advance, and these in turn will be followed by Nos. 3 and 4 and their rear rank men. The remaining half-sections will follow in succession inclining and covering the leading half-sections.

#### **Advance in Single Files from the Right. Quick—March.**

No. 1 of the right section of fours will advance, followed by his rear rank man. Nos. 2, 3 and 4, followed by their rear rank men, will move off in succession, inclining and covering the leading file. The remainder will act similarly. If an advance from the left is ordered, the same rules as above will apply if left be substituted for right and Nos. 4, 3, 2, 1, for 1, 2, 3, 4.

When done on the move the remainder will mark time without further orders until it comes to their turn to move.

**NOTE.**—Each of the movements can be carried out in a similar manner from the left by substituting "*Left*" for "*Right*".

#### 9. *Increasing the front.*

##### i. *From single files.*

#### **To the Halt, Form—Half-Sections.**

The leading file will advance five paces and halt. The second file will move up into line with the leading file by inclining to its left. The third file will advance and, when at the proper distance from the leading file, halt, covering it. The fourth file will move up into line with, and on the left of, the third file. The remaining files will act similarly.

##### ii. *From half-sections.*

#### **To the Halt, Form—Sections.**

The leading half-section will advance five paces and halt. Those in rear will conform as above.

##### iii. *From sections of fours.*

#### **To the Halt, on the Left (or Right). Form—Squad.**

The leading section of fours will advance five paces and halt. Those in rear will conform as above.

This command will also be used when it is required to form squad from single files or half-sections.

If an advance from the left has been made, and it is desired to increase the front, the command will be given to move up on the right of those in front and vice versa.

If the caution *To the Halt* is not given the leading file, half-sections or sections of fours will advance five paces and mark time.

NOTE.—If the command *To the Halt* is not required, the order in para. 9, i, and 9, ii, will be *Form Half-sections (or Fours) Front Mark Time*. In para. 9, iii, the command *To the Halt* will simply be omitted. On these orders the leading file, half-section or section of fours will advance five paces and mark time.

#### 10. Decreasing the front when on the move.

##### i. From sections of fours.

#### Form Half-sections, Rear Mark—Time.

Nos. 1 and 2 of the rear rank of each section of fours will close up to one and a half paces distance. All the Nos. 3 and 4 will mark time two paces, incline to their right, take two paces in the new direction, then incline to their front on the third pace, the rear ranks closing to one and a half paces distance during this movement.

##### ii. From half-sections.

#### Form Single File, Rear Mark—Time.

Nos. 1 and 3 of the rear rank of each section of fours will close up to one pace distance. All the Nos. 2 and 4 will mark time two paces, incline to their right, take two paces in the new direction, and then incline to their front on the third pace, the rear rank closing to one pace distance during this movement.

NOTE.—Forming single file from sections of fours must not be done as one movement. Half-sections must be formed first.

#### 11. Formations to a flank.

*Forming squad to a flank.*

#### To the Halt, Fours—Right (or Left).

On the command *Right (or Left)*, the leading section of fours will wheel at once to the flank named, advance five paces and halt; those in rear advance until nearly opposite the inner flank of the section of fours next in front of them and then wheel and come up into the alignment.

If the caution *To the Halt* is omitted in the above command, the leading section of fours will advance five paces before marking time.

In order to maintain the relative position of the numbers in each section of fours, "sections" must be formed before the order to wheel is given when advancing in single files or half-sections.

#### 12. Moving to a flank.

#### Fours (Half-sections or Single Files) Right (or Left). Quick—March.

A squad may be moved to either flank in column of sections, half-sections, or single files.

On the command *March*, the first section will wheel in the required direction to the count of four paces, the remainder marking time. On completion of the wheel of the first section, the second section will wheel to the count of four paces, and follow on behind the first section. On completion of the wheel of the second section, the third section will wheel to the count of four paces, and so on throughout the squad.

A squad may be moved a short distance to a flank in file by the command *Right (or Left) Turn*.

#### 13. Opening a squad on the march to drill with intervals.

*From sections of fours.*

#### From the Right—Open Out.

The right-hand man of each section of fours will continue to advance. Nos. 2, 3, and 4 will incline to their left until they are respectively at two paces interval from the men on their right. They will then incline to their right.

#### 14. Closing a squad on the march to sections of fours.

*From "open out" formation.*

#### On the Right—Close.

The right-hand man of each section of fours will continue to advance. Nos. 2, 3 and 4 will incline to their right until they are at the correct close order interval from the men on their right. They will then incline to their left.

NOTE.—In the above two cases it will be necessary for the right-hand man slightly to shorten his pace until the movement is completed.



15. *Formations to the rear.*—Formations to the rear are made when in single files, half-sections or sections by wheeling right about simultaneously on their own ground, the rear rank following the front rank round, or when in line by wheeling sections about and then acting as described above. In these cases the first command will be *Single Files, Half-sections or Fours—About*, the wheel being carried out to the right on a fixed pivot.

When wheeling about, sections of fours will wheel in eight paces, and half-sections in four paces.

#### PART II—ROYAL ENGINEERS, ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS, INFANTRY AND ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS

### 32. Formation of a squad in two ranks

The squad will be formed for drill in two ranks. The men will take their places in succession, commencing from the right unless they are ordered to form on the other flank, each occupying a lateral space of 24 inches. Each man of the rear rank will be placed 60 inches from the man in front of him, measuring from heel to heel, and will cover him correctly, the two men thus placed forming a file. When the squad consists of an uneven number of men the third man from the left of the front rank will be a blank (or incomplete) file; that is, he will have no rear rank man.

### 33. Dressing

1. *For ceremonial purposes* men will be taught to dress on the word of command *Right (or Left)—Dress*. Both ranks will act as in Sec. 19, 1; in addition, the rear rank will correctly cover the front rank.

2. Normally, however, in squad drill, each man will take up his dressing without further word of command on completion of the movement, both ranks acting as in Sec. 19, 2, and the rear rank correctly covering the front rank.

### 34. Numbering a squad

#### Squad—Number.

The men of the front rank will number off smartly as in Sec. 20, 1. Each rear rank man will have the same number as his front rank man.

### 35. Opening and closing a squad

#### 1. Open Ranks—March.

The odd numbers of the front rank will step forward two paces, the even numbers of the rear rank will step back two paces. Ranks will dress as in Sec. 8.

#### 2. Reform Ranks—March.

The odd numbers of the front rank will step back two paces, the even numbers of the rear rank will step forward two paces, and each man will correct his dressing without further word of command as in Sec. 19, 2.

### 36. Marching in line

#### 1. The Squad will Advance. By the Right (or Left), Quick—March. Or The Squad will Advance. By the Right (or Left), Double—March.

The whole will step off, the front rank man of the file on the named flank taking points to march on. The men of each rank, except the directing file, will glance occasionally to the named flank to maintain their dressing. The men of the rear rank will also preserve their covering and distance from the front rank.

If there is a blank file, he will always be with the leading rank; when the squad is turned about on the march he will mark time two paces on the word *about*, thus gaining his position in the new leading rank before the turn is completed; if the squad is turned about at the halt, blank files and guides will stand fast on the caution *about* and turn on the command *turn*, then take two paces forward and align themselves with the new front rank.

2. When a squad is turned about, the ranks are thereby changed, and the former rear rank becomes the front rank; the former front rank the rear rank.

When, however, the squad is required to fall back for a short distance only before resuming the original direction, ranks will not be changed. In this case the command will be *The squad will retire, About—Turn*; and, on completion, *The squad will advance, About—Turn*.

#### 3. The diagonal march.

#### Diagonal march. Right In—cline.

As in para. 1 above. The men of the rear rank will preserve their relative positions with the men of the front rank, in

order that they may cover correctly when they are again turned into line.

Should the squad be required to move in the original direction, the command will be: *The squad will advance, Left In—cline.*

#### 4. Changing direction.

**Change direction Right (or Left). Right (or Left)—Form.**

The right-hand man of the front rank will make a full turn in the required direction, and the remainder of the front rank a right (or left) incline. The rear rank will stand fast.

#### Quick—March.

The right-hand man of the front rank will move forward two paces and mark time; the remainder will step off, the men of the rear rank conforming to the movements of their front rank men. The whole will mark time when they come into their places in the new alignment.

#### For—ward.

The whole will move forward in the new direction.

i. If the command is *At the halt, Right—Form*, the right-hand man will make a full turn to the right. On the command *Quick—March* he will advance two paces and halt, and the remainder will halt and dress as they come up in line with him.

ii. Squads may be formed half (or quarter) right (or left) on the command *Half (or Quarter) Right (or Left)—Form*.

### 37. Marching in file

#### 1. Turning into file.

**Move to the Right (or Left) in File. Right (or Left)—Turn.**

The whole will turn to the right (or left) and lead on in that direction without checking the pace. The men of the rear rank will dress by their front rank men.

#### 2. Changing direction.

**Change direction Right (or Left). Right (or Left)—Wheel.**

The inner man of the leading file will move round a quarter of the circumference of a circle having a radius of four feet, stepping short to enable the outer man of the file to wheel

with him. When the quarter circle is completed, the file leads on in the new direction. The other files in succession will follow in the footsteps of the leading file without increasing or diminishing their distances from each other or altering the time.

If the squad is halted, or ordered to marked time, when only a part of it has wheeled into the new direction, the remainder will cover off as directed in Sec. 26, 3, on the command *Rear Files—Cover*.

#### 3. Forming squad.

**On the Left (or Right), Form—Squad.**

The left-hand man of the leading file, if the formation is on the left (or right-hand man of the leading file, if the formation is on the right), will lead on two paces and mark time. The remainder will incline in the named direction, and move up in line with him, marking time as they come into alignment.

#### For—ward.

The squad will move on in line in the direction in which it was originally marching in file.

i. After forming squad on the right, the left will normally be ordered to direct.

ii. If the command is *At the Halt. On the Left (or Right), Form—Squad*, the left- (or right-) hand man of the leading file will lead on two paces and halt. The remainder will incline in the named direction and move up, halting and dressing as they reach their places on the new alignment.

iii. The squad may be formed obliquely to the line of march by the command *Half (Quarter or Three-quarter) Left (or Right). Form—Squad*.

#### 4. Forming single file.

**Advance in Single File from the Right. Quick—March.**

The file on the right will at once move off, the remaining files marking time until the file on their right is clear, when they will follow on; inclining and covering off the files in front.

i. If the squad is marching in file, the command will be *Form Single—File*. The front rank man of the leading file will then lead on, the remainder marking time to get into their places, and following on as described above.

ii. A squad may similarly advance in single file from fours.

5. *Forming two-deep.***Form—Two-deep.**

The leading man will mark time, the remainder of the squad will regain their positions in file, marking time as they reach their places.

**For—ward.**

The squad will move forward in file.

**38. Forming fours.** (Plate III.)\*1. *To form fours.***Form—Fours.**

The even numbers will take a pace of 30 inches back with the left foot, and then a side pace of 24 inches with the right, so as to cover their odd numbers. In this formation the squad will stand in fours.

i. Great attention must be paid to training men when marching in fours, to keep the prescribed distance from and to cover exactly the man in front. Odd numbers are right files and even numbers are left files.

ii. In order that the left section of fours may always be complete, the file on the left of a squad or section will act as the left file and the second file from the left as a right file in forming fours.

iii. In the case of an odd file or a blank even file, as in Figs. 1 and 3, the rear rank man of the third or fourth file respectively from the left flank will take a pace of 30 inches directly to the rear, in order to be in line with the rear rank men of its left files.

In the case of a blank odd file (Fig. 2) that file will march on the directing flank when in fours.

2. *To form two-deep.***Form—Two-deep.**

The left files will move to their original position in line by taking a side pace of 24 inches with the left foot and a pace forward of 30 inches with the right; or if the squad has been turned about while in fours, a side pace with the right foot and a pace back with the left.

\* When the formation of "threes" is to be adopted for marching (see Sec. 90, 1), men should be fallen in in three ranks, so that, when turned to a flank, they are in their march formation.

i. In forming fours with the rear rank in front, left files will take a pace of 30 inches to their front with the right foot, and one of 24 inches to the left with the left, thus bringing them into the same relative position as regard right files as they occupy after forming fours in the usual way.

They will form two-deep by taking a side pace with the right foot and a pace back with the left.

ii. In the case of an odd file or a blank even file (Figs. 1 and 3) the rear rank man will take a pace directly to his front.

iii. A blank odd file (Fig. 2) will take a pace forward when fours are formed with the rear rank in front.

He will form two-deep by taking a pace back with the left foot.

3. *To the right or left.***Move to the Right (or Left) in Fours. Form Fours.**

As above.

**Right (or Left).**

Each man of the squad will turn in the named direction.

Except during the elementary training of recruits, the command *Form Fours—Right (or Left)* will, in cases where no other caution is indicated in this manual, be preceded by the caution *Move to the Right (or Left) in Fours*, whether the troops are halted or on the march.

4. *To re-form line.***Left (or Right)—Turn.**

Each man of the squad will turn in the direction named, and then form two-deep, as described above.

If it is required to remain in fours, the word of command will be *In Fours, Left (or Right)—Turn*.

5. *When on the march in line.***Move to the Right (or Left) in Fours, Form Fours—Right (or Left).**

As in paras. 3 and 4, but the right files will mark time two paces, while the left files are moving to their places.

Should the command *Right (or Left) In—cline* be given, when a squad is marching in fours, the squad will incline instead of turning in the required direction.

When inclining, the squad will remain in fours.



6. *When in file at the halt.***Form—Fours.***Right of the squad leading.*

The left files will take a pace to the right with the right foot and a pace forward with the left foot, thus bringing them on the right of the right files.

*Left of the squad leading.*

The left files take a pace to the left with the left foot, and a pace to the rear with the right foot, thus bringing them on the left of the right files.

**Form—Two-deep.***Right of the squad leading.*

The left files will take a pace to the rear with the right foot and a pace to the left with the left foot, thus bringing them in rear of the right files.

*Left of the squad leading.*

The left files take a pace forward with the left foot, and a pace to the right with the right foot, thus bringing them to the front of the right files.

7. *When in file on the march.***Form—Fours.**

The same motions as when halted, except that the right files mark time two paces in each case so as to allow the left files to move to their places.

**Form—Two-deep.**

The same motions as at the halt, the right files again marking time two paces to allow the left files to move to their places.

8. A test of good marching in fours is the position of the men when they are turned into line. If there are no gaps or irregularities in the line and the squad occupies the same frontage as before it formed fours, the marching is good. This test should be applied during the instruction of recruits, and the slightest carelessness as regards the maintenance of exact distances should be checked.

**39. Movements in fours**1. *Changing direction.***Change direction Right. Right—Wheel.**

The inner man of the leading four will move round a quarter of the circumference of a circle having a radius of four feet, stepping short to enable the other men of the four to wheel with him. When the quarter circle is completed the four leads on in the new direction. The other fours in succession will follow in the footsteps of the leading four without increasing or diminishing their distances from each other or altering the time.

2. **Rear Fours Cover.**

If the squad is halted or ordered to mark time before the whole squad has wheeled into the new direction, the fours which have not yet wheeled will cover off on those which have, moving to their places by the shortest route.

3. *Forming squad when moving to the right.***On the Left. Form—Squad.**

Each man will complete the pace with the left foot. The right files will mark time two paces, the left files will take a pace to the rear with the right foot and one to the left with the left foot, and the whole of the squad, except the right-hand man of the front rank, who will lead forward two paces and then mark time, will make a half-left turn together and move up to their places in line, each man marking time when he reaches his position in line.

**For—ward.**

The squad will move on in line in the direction in which it was originally marching in fours.

When a squad moving to the right in fours forms squad on the right, the right files mark time three paces; the left files take a pace to the rear with the right foot and one to the left with the left foot, mark time one pace, and the whole make a half-right turn together and move up.

4. *Forming squad when moving to the left.***On the Right. Form—Squad.**

Each man will complete the pace with the right foot. The right files will mark time two paces, the left files will take a pace to the front with the left foot and one to the right

with the right foot, and the whole except the left-hand man of the front rank, who will lead forward two paces and then mark time, will make a half-right turn together and move up to their places in line, each man marking time when he reaches his position in line.

#### For—ward.

As in para. 3, above.

i. When a squad moving to the left in fours forms squad on the left, the right files **mark time three paces**, the left files take a pace to the front with the left foot and one to the right with the right foot, **mark time one pace**, and the whole make a half-left turn together.

ii. When the command *On the Right (or Left), Form—Squad* is preceded by the caution *At the Halt*, each man will halt when he reaches his position in line, instead of marking time.

### PART III.—ROYAL TANK CORPS

#### 40. Squad drill in two ranks

1. The recruits will be formed in two ranks as laid down in Sec. 41.

2. The following will then be taught:—

i. *Dressing.* (See 33.)

ii. *Inspection.*

Whenever a squad, parading in two ranks, is to be inspected, the ranks will be opened for the inspection or closed on its completion by the following orders:—

#### Open Order—March.

The rear rank will step back one and a half paces and dress by the right.

#### Close Order—March.

The rear rank will step forward one and a half paces.

iii. *Numbering of squad.* (Sec. 34.)

iv. *Opening and closing of squad.* (Sec. 35.)

v. *Marching in line.* (Sec. 36, 1, 2, and 3.)

vi. *Marching in file.* (Sec. 37, 1.)

#### 41. Drill in two ranks in crew organization

1. The squad will next be formed in two ranks and told off into crews.

**NOTE.**—The drill laid down in this section may be used for parties of trained men when intervals between crews, as in section drill dismounted, are not desirable. For recruits it forms preliminary instruction in section drill.

2. *Falling in on markers.*

The men will fall in in two ranks at one and a half paces distance on a N.C.O. marker, who will not be covered off.

The second man of the front rank of each crew will be the crew commander. If a crew is incomplete after the front rank is filled, it will be covered off in order of priority as follows:—

Nos. 2, 4, 1. (At this stage dressing will be carried out as laid down in Sec. 33, 2.)

Spare N.C.Os. will fall in on the left.

3. *Numbering.*

On the command **By Crews—Number**, the front rank will number in fours. In order that the left crew may be complete, the man fourth from the left will always number himself *One*, whatever may be the number of the man on his right.

No. 2 of each crew will be the crew commander.

On the command **Flanks of Crews—Prove**, Nos. 1 and 4 of the front rank will “Prove” as in Sec. 20, 2.

On the command **As you were**, numbers proving will cut their hands to the side, as in Sec. 20, 2.

4. *Telling off by crews.*

Crews will be told off with No. 1 crew in the centre. Nos. 2 and 3 crews on the right, Nos. 4 and 5 crews on the left.

In the event of less than 5 crews being on parade, No. 5 crew will be omitted, then No. 4, and so on.

On the command **Tell Off by Crews**, crew commanders will number in the order above, the first and last crew commanders using the word “Crew” only.

5. *Crew commanders taking post.*

#### Crew Commanders, Take—Post.

On this command, the No. 2 of the front rank of each crew will step forward one and a half paces, and his coverer will step up into the front rank.

6. *Crew commanders falling in.***Crew Commanders—Fall In.**

On this command, the crew commander and his coverer will take one and a half paces to the rear, and resume their original positions.

7. *Dressing at the Halt.* (Except at Ceremonial Drill.)

Each man will take up his own dressing by the centre without orders as in Sec. 19, 2.

Dressing of the crews when in line will be taken from No. 1 crew commander.

8. *Movements from the halt to the halt.*

Movements (except half crew movements) should first be carried out from the *Halt to the Halt* in order:—

- i. To facilitate the learning of the movements.
- ii. To check discrepancies in dressing and interval.

**To the Halt. Crews Right (Left—About)—Quick (Slow)—March.**

On this command the crews will wheel as follows:—

- (a) Right—to the right;
- (b) Left—to the left;
- (c) About—right about;

the man on the right in the case of (a) and (c), and on the left in the case of (b), acting as pivot and will halt on completion of fifth pace in the case of *crews right* (or *Left*), and on the completion of the 9th pace in the case of *crews about*.

Dressing will be carried out as in para. 7, above.

9. *Dressing (when on the move).*i. *Line ahead.*

Unless otherwise ordered, dressing will be by the crew commander.

Front rank men will maintain their dressing and keep correct intervals by occasional glances towards their crew commander without moving their heads.

The rear rank will cover their respective front rank numbers, keeping their correct distance from them.

ii. *Line.*

Unless otherwise ordered, dressing of the front rank will be by No. 1 crew commander.

The rear rank will maintain their dressing as in sub-para. i, above.

10. *Moving off (marching).***Crews Right (or Left)—Quick (or Slow) March.**

On this command the crews will wheel, the man on the named flank acting as pivot, and lead off in the required direction on the sixth pace.

If the command is **Crews About—Quick (or Slow) March**, the crew will wheel right about in nine paces, the man on the right acting as pivot, and lead forward on the tenth pace.

The command **Crews—Right (Left or About)**, may also be given when on the move.

To reform line, the command **To the Halt. Crews—Right (or Left)** will be given.

Crews will form in the named direction, halt on completion of the fifth pace, pause and dress, as laid down in para. 7, above.

The command **To the Halt. Crews—About**, may also be given.

Crews will form in the named direction, halt on completion of the ninth pace, and dress as laid down in para. 7, above.

11. *Forming half crews or single file.*i. *Forming half crews.***Form Half—Crews.**

On this command, Nos. 1 and 2 of each rank will continue to advance. Nos. 3 and 4 of each rank incline to the right, cover, and follow Nos. 1 and 2 of their respective ranks.

ii. *Forming single file from half crews.***Form Single—File.**

On this command, the odd numbers will continue to advance, the even numbers will incline to the right and cover off their respective odd numbers.

iii. *Reforming half crews from single file.***Reform Half—Crews.**

On this command, the odd numbers will mark time two paces, and the even numbers incline to their left and pick up dressing with the odd numbers.

iv. *Reforming crews from half crews.***Reform—Crews.**

On this command, the Nos. 1 and 2 of each rank will mark time two paces, the Nos. 3 and 4 will incline to their left and regain alignment with their Nos. 1 and 2.



12. *Advancing from a centre or a flank.*

**Advance by Crews from the Right (Left or Centre). Quick—March.**

The crew named will lead off, the remainder marking time and inclining successively on the 3rd, 5th, 7th pace, etc., if the movement is from the right, and successively on the 2nd, 4th, and 6th pace, etc., if the movement is from the left.

Crews will lead forward on the command **Forward** given by crew commanders when their crews are covering off a leading crew.

When advancing by crews from the centre, No. 1 crew will lead forward, the remainder marking time and inclining on the following paces :—

No. 2 Crew—2nd.

No. 3 Crew—4th.

No. 4 Crew—7th.

No. 5 Crew—9th.

They will then lead forward in succession, crew commanders giving the command **Forward** when covering the leading crew.

If only four crews are on parade, the order of moving off will be as follows :—

From the right      3,      2,      1,      4.

From the left      4,      1,      2,      3,

From the centre    1,      2,      3,      4.

The commander of the parade will move at the head, other officers on the directing flank, equally spaced from front to rear.

13. *Forming line to the front.*

To re-form line from line ahead, the command **To the Halt. On the Right (or Left). Form—Line** may be given.

The leading crew will lead on and halt at the completion of the seventh pace.

The remaining crews will incline to the required flank and when covering off their positions in line, the crew com-

manders will give the command **Forward**. On reaching their positions on the alignment, crew commanders will give the command **Halt**. When the last crew has halted, dressing will be carried out as laid down in para. 7, above.

If the advance was from the centre, and it is desired to re-form line in the same order, the command will be **To the Halt. Form—Line**, when crews will assume their original positions in line as detailed above.

14. *Changing direction.*i. *From line.*

Changing direction will be carried out as follows :—

**Change direction Right (or Left). Right (or Left) Wheel. Quick—March** (if from the halt).

The front rank will lead on two short paces and wheel 90 degrees, marking time as they come on to the new alignment. The inner flank man will act as pivot and look inwards, the remainder of the front rank will look to him for dressing, turning their heads and eyes to the front as soon as the wheel is completed.

The rear rank will follow their front rank men.

On the command **Forward**, the whole will move forward in the new direction.

If on the move, the command **Quick—March** will be omitted.

ii. *Crews in line ahead.*

**Right (or Left) Wheel. Quick—March.**

On this command, the front rank of the leading crew will step off and wheel 90 degrees in the direction named, the inner flank man acting as pivot, and describing an arc equal to half the frontage of the crew. The remainder will lead forward and wheel on the same ground as the leading crew.

Wheels can be carried out to any angle, the command **Forward** being given when sufficient wheel is attained.

If a wheel of 45 degrees is desired the command will be **Half Right (or Left)—Wheel**.

If on the move, the command **Quick—March** will be omitted.

## 15. Words of command.

Word of command (a)	Slow time (b)	Quick time (c)
To the Halt, Crews— <b>Right—Left—About.</b>	Right foot coming to the ground.	Left foot coming to the ground.
Form Half—Crews. Form Single—File.	Left foot passing right.	Right foot coming to the ground.
Reform—Crews. Reform—Half—Crews.	Right foot passing left.	Left foot coming to the ground.
To the Halt on Left Form—Line.	Right foot passing left.	Left foot coming to the ground.
To the Halt on Right Form—Line. To the Halt Form— Line.	Left foot passing right.	Right foot coming to the ground.

## CHAPTER IV

### DRILL WITH ARMS

#### RIFLE EXERCISES

#### 42. General rules

1. Squad drill with arms will be combined with instruction in the care of arms, including the names of the principal parts of the rifle, and aiming and firing.

2. It is important that this instruction should begin from the time the recruit is issued with his rifle, in order to avoid faulty methods in the early stages.

3. When rifle exercises are performed judging the time, when halted, the motions will be carried out at the rate of 60 to the minute. When performed judging the time, on the march, each motion will be carried out as the left foot meets the ground.

4. Squads drilling with rifles will be practised in the different marches and variations of step described in the foregoing sections.

The disengaged arm will be allowed to swing naturally as described in Secs. 11 and 14.

5. During the handling of the rifle and throughout every movement of it, the head must be kept perfectly still, except where expressly stated otherwise.

6. *Dismissing.* As laid down in Sec. 27, but arms will be sloped before the squad is dismissed. On wet days, to avoid damaging the uniform with wet rifles, troops may be dismissed at the order.

NOTES.—1. In the Royal Artillery, rifle exercises will not be performed at inspections, but will only be practised by formations larger than a squad for ceremonial purposes.

2. In the Royal Tank Corps, rifle exercises will be practised at the depot only.

3. Instructions for riding with the rifle for mounted troops, will be found in the Manual of Horsemanship, Driving and Equitation.

**43. Falling in with rifles at the order**

The recruit will fall in as described in Sec. 18 with the rifle held perpendicularly at his right side, the butt on the ground, its toe in line with the toe of the right boot. The right arm to be slightly bent, the hand to hold the rifle at or near the band, back of the hand to the right, thumb against the thigh, fingers together and slanting towards the ground, elbow to the rear. (Plate IV.)

When each man has taken up his dressing, he will stand at ease.

**44. To stand at ease and stand easy from the order****1. Standing at ease.****Stand at—Ease.**

Carry the left foot about 12 inches to the left so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet. At the same time push the muzzle of the rifle smartly forward with the right hand, the right arm straight, and close to the side, without allowing the right shoulder to drop, toe of the butt remaining in line with the toe of the right boot, the left arm to be kept in the position of attention.

**2. Standing easy.****Stand—Easy.**

On the command *Stand—Easy*, the right hand will be slid up the rifle to the piling swivel and the men will act as in Sec. 7.

3. On the caution *Squad, etc.*, the right hand will be slid down to the band, and the position of stand at ease assumed.

4. The above procedure is the same with or without bayonets fixed.

**45. Attention from stand at ease****Squad—Attention.**

The left foot will be brought smartly up to the right and the rifle returned to the *order*.

**46. The slope from the order****Slope Arms—One.**

Throw the rifle upwards with the right hand, catching it with both hands at the same time, left hand at the backsight, the right hand at the small of the butt, thumb to the left,

elbow to the rear, right arm nearly straight, rifle kept perpendicular, close into the right side, shoulders to be kept square.

**Two.**

Carry the rifle across the body, and place it flat on the left shoulder, magazine outwards from the body. As the rifle comes on the shoulder seize the butt with the left hand, the first two joints of the fingers grasping the upper side of the butt, the thumb about one inch above the toe, left elbow close to the side, forearm horizontal, and the heel of the butt in line with the centre of the left thigh.

**Three.** (Plate V.)

Cut away the right hand to the position of *attention*. Rifle to be kept perfectly still.

**47. The order from the slope****Order Arms—One.**

Bring the rifle down to the full extent of the left arm, at the same time meeting it with the right hand where it is held at the order, arm close to the body. Butt not to be drawn to the rear.

**Two.**

Bring the rifle to the right side, steadying it at the time with the left hand at the nose cap, butt just clear of the ground.

**Three.**

Place the butt quietly on the ground, cutting the left hand away to the side.

**48. The present from the slope****Present Arms—One.**

Grasp the rifle with the right hand at the small, forearm close to the body.

**Two.**

Raise the rifle with the right hand perpendicularly in front of the centre of the body, magazine to the left; at the same time place the left hand smartly on the stock, wrist on the magazine, fingers pointing upwards, thumb close to the fore-



finger, point of the thumb in line with the mouth; the left elbow to be close to the butt, the right elbow and butt close to the body.

### Three. (Plate VI.)

Quitting the rifle with the left hand bring the rifle down perpendicularly in front of and about three inches from the centre of the body, turning the magazine to the front, holding at the full extent of the right arm, fingers together slanting downwards, and meet it smartly with the left hand immediately behind the backsight, outside the sling, thumb pointing towards the muzzle; at the same time place the hollow of the right foot against the left heel, both knees straight. The weight of the rifle to be supported by the left hand.

## 49. The slope from the present

### Slope Arms—One.

Bring the right foot up in line with the left and at the same time place the rifle on the left shoulder as described in the second motion of the *slope* from the *order*.

### Two.

Cut away the right hand to the side; rifle to be kept still.

## 50. Fixing bayonets from the order

(This section does not apply to Cavalry and Royal Artillery.)

### Fix.

The right-hand man will take three paces forward at the short trail.

In the case of a company in line the number of paces taken by the right-hand man will be seven; in the case of a larger body of troops than a company, when in line 15 paces will be taken.

### Bayonets—One.

Seize the handle of the bayonet with the left hand, back of the hand to the front, thumb and fingers to the rear, withdrawing the bayonet sufficiently to allow the left arm to become straight; at the same time push the muzzle of the rifle sharply forward; front rank men turning the head and eyes to the right, looking straight at the right-hand man who will look to the left.

### Two. (Plate VII.)

Taking the time from the right-hand man, draw the bayonet, turning the point upwards and keeping the elbow down. Place the handle on the bayonet standard, with the ring over the stud on the nose cap pressing it home to the catch. The left hand should be placed as shown in the illustration. Body and head to be erect. After pressing his bayonet to the catch, the right-hand man will raise his disengaged arm to the full extent upwards at an angle of 135 degrees.

### Three.

Taking the time from the right-hand man bring the rifle to the *order*; at the same time cut away the left hand to the side, front rank turning the head and eyes to the front.

The right-hand man will then take three paces to the rear, at the short trail, and align himself with the front rank.

In the case of a company or larger body of troops in line, the right-hand man will turn about and, at the short trail, resume his original position.

In the above motions the front rank will time their movements by the right-hand man and the rear rank will take their time from the front rank.

## 51. Unfixing bayonets from the order

(This section does not apply to Cavalry and Royal Artillery.)

### Unfix.

The left-hand man will step forward at the short trail, as in fixing bayonets.

### Bayonets—One. (Plate VIII.)

Keeping the heels closed, place the rifle between and grip it with the knees, guard to the front. At the same time seize the rifle with the left hand, knuckles to the front, thumb on the bayonet bolt spring; the right hand to be kept on the rifle.

### Two.

Seize the bayonet handle smartly with the right hand, knuckles to the front; draw the rifle towards the body with the knees and press the spring with the left thumb. Raise the bayonet about one inch, holding it in a vertical

position, and at the same time the front rank men, turning the head and eyes to the left, will look straight at the left-hand man. *Rear rank looking to the front. The left-hand man raising his right arm straight and upwards at an angle of 135 degrees, at the same time turning his head and eyes to the right.*

### Three.

Taking the time from the left-hand man, drop the point to the left side, ring to the rear, returning the bayonet half-way into the scabbard, keeping the forearm square with the body (the left-hand man forcing his bayonet home), at the same time seize the scabbard with the left hand, thumb underneath the frog, guiding the bayonet into the scabbard with the forefinger of the left hand.

### Four.

The left-hand man will raise his right hand smartly as in **Two**, and on this signal remainder will force the bayonet home.

### Five.

Taking the time from the left-hand man seize the rifle with the right hand at the band retaining hold of the scabbard with the left hand.

### Six.

Taking the time from left-hand man return to the order and at the same time cutting the left hand to the side, front rank turning the head and eyes to the front.

The left-hand man will then take three paces to the rear, at the short trail, and align himself with the front rank.

In the case of a company or larger body of troops in line the left-hand man will turn about and, at the short trail, resume his original position.

In the above motions the front rank time their movements by the left-hand man and the rear rank will take their time from the front rank.

## 52. Inspection of arms

1. A squad, parading in two ranks, will be opened and closed as in Sec. 3, 1.

### 2. Inspection of arms from the order.

#### For Inspection, Port—Arms.

Throw the rifle, muzzle leading, with the right hand smartly across the body, magazine to the left and downwards, the barrel crossing opposite the point of the left shoulder, and meet it at the same time with the left hand close behind the backsight, thumb and fingers round the rifle, the left wrist to be opposite the left breast, both elbows close to the body.

Turn the safety catch completely over to the front with the thumb of the right hand. Pull out the cut-off, first pressing it downwards, with the thumb, then seize the knob with the forefinger and thumb of the right hand, and, taking the time from the right-hand man, turn it sharply upwards, and draw back the bolt to its full extent; then seize the butt with the right hand immediately behind the bolt, thumb pointing to the muzzle.

### 3. Inspection of arms from the slope.

#### For Inspection, Port Arms—One.

Seize the rifle with the right hand at the small of the butt.

#### Two.

Bring the rifle down to the *port*, meeting it with the left hand close behind the backsight; then proceed as in para. 2, above.

### 4. To ease springs, or charge magazines and come to the order.

#### Ease—Springs.

From the position described above, work the bolt rapidly backwards and forwards until all cartridges are removed from the magazine and chamber\* allowing them to fall to the ground, then close the *cut-off* (except with S.M.L.E. Mark III\* rifles, which have no cut-off) by placing the right hand over the bolt and pressing the *cut-off* inwards, then close the *breech*, press the *trigger*, turn the *safety catch* over to the rear with the first finger of the right hand, and return the hand to the small.

#### Charge—Magazines.

The *magazine* will hold two charges of five cartridges each, but should, in ordinary circumstances, be loaded with one

\* This precaution will also be adopted when magazines are not charged, and at drill it should be presumed that five rounds are in the magazine and chamber.

only. If it is desired to charge the magazine without loading the rifle, the top cartridge may be pressed downward with the thumb and the *cut-off* closed.

The breech will then be closed, trigger pressed and the *safety catch* applied.

When using a rifle which is not fitted with a *cut-off* and it is required to charge magazines, keep the pressure on the top cartridge with the thumb of the right hand and draw the bolt-head over it with the little finger, close the *breech*, press the *trigger* and apply the *safety catch*.

#### 5. To order arms from the port.

##### Order Arms—One.

Holding the rifle firmly in the left hand, seize it with the right hand where it is held at the order.

##### Two.

As in the second motion of the *order* from the *slope*.

##### Three.

As in the third motion of the *order* from the *slope*.

#### 6. To slope arms from the port.

##### Slope Arms—One.

Place the rifle on the left shoulder as described in the second motion of the *slope* from the *order* (Sec. 46).

##### Two.

As in the third motion of the *slope* from the *order*.

### 53. Instructions for inspecting arms

1. When arms are inspected at the *port* only, as in inspecting a platoon on parade, the officer, warrant officer, or N.C.O. will see that the exterior of the rifle is clean and free from rust; that the magazine and action are clean and in good order; that the sights are at zero; and that no parts are loose or damaged. He will here and there examine the bore of a rifle to see that it has been cleaned and is free from obstructions.

2. Each soldier, when the officer, warrant officer or N.C.O. has passed the file next to him, will, without further word of command, *ease springs, order arms* and *stand at ease*.

#### 54. To examine arms

##### Examine—Arms.

Both ranks, being at the *port*, will come to the position for loading (see Small Arms Training, Vol. I), with the muzzle so inclined as to enable the officer, warrant officer or N.C.O. to look through the barrel, the thumbnail of the right hand being placed in front of the bolt to reflect light into the barrel.

The soldier, when the officer, warrant officer or N.C.O. has passed the next file to him, will act as detailed in Sec. 53, 2.

i. If it is necessary to examine arms, the men, when in the position of *for inspection, port arms*, will be cautioned to remain at the *port*. Ranks will be closed, as in Sec. 3, 1, when the examination has been completed.

ii. In ordering arms from the examine, the first motion will be to seize the rifle with the right hand where it is held at the *order*, at the same time bring the left foot back to the right. With the second motion the rifle will be brought to the right side, the left hand steadying the rifle, as in the second motion of the *order* from the *slope*. The third motion is the same as the third motion of the *order* from the *slope*.

#### 55. The trail from the order. (Plate IX.)

The *trail* is not normally used in close order drill except by rifle and English light infantry regiments. It will be used, however, in the field.

##### Trail—Arms.

By a slight bend of the right arm give the rifle a cant forward and seize it at the point of balance, bringing it at once to a horizontal position at the side at the full extent of the right arm, which should hang easily from the shoulder, fingers and thumb round the rifle.

#### 56. The order from the trail

##### Order—Arms.

Raise the muzzle, catch the rifle at the band and come to the *order*.

#### 57. The trail from the slope

##### Trail Arms—One.

Keeping the rifle in the position of the *slope*, seize it at the point of balance with the right hand.



**Two.**

With the right hand bring the rifle to a horizontal position at the right side (as in Sec. 55), at the same time cutting the left hand to the side.

**58. The slope from the trail****Slope Arms—One.**

With the right hand place the rifle on the left shoulder in the position of the *slope*, at the same time seizing the butt with the left hand as in the second motion of the *slope* from the *order* (Sec. 46).

**Two.**

Cut away the right hand to the side.

**59. To change arms when at the slope****Change Arms—One.**

Seize the butt of the rifle with the right hand, back of the hand up, at the same time slipping the left hand up to the small.

**Two.**

Carry the rifle, turning the magazine outwards, on to the right shoulder, bringing it well to the front, so as to clear the head.

**Three.**

Cut the left hand to the side.

To change arms from the right to the left shoulder act as above, reading *left for right*, and *right for left*.

**60. To change arms when at the trail****Change Arms—One.**

Bring the rifle to a perpendicular position in front of the right shoulder, magazine to the front, upper part of the arm close to the side, forearm horizontal, hand in line with the waist-belt.

**Two.**

Pass the rifle across the front of the body, catching it with the left hand at the point of balance, at the same time cutting the right hand smartly to the side. In this position the rifle

is to be held perpendicularly and opposite the left shoulder, magazine to the front, upper part of the left arm close to the side, left forearm horizontal, hand in line with the waist-belt.

**Three.**

Lower the rifle to the full extent of the left arm at the *trail*.

To change arms from the left to the right act as above, reading *left for right* and *right for left*.

**61. The short trail**

*No word of command.*

Raise the rifle about three inches from the ground, keeping otherwise in the position of the *order*.

If standing with ordered arms, and directed to form fours, to close to the right or left, to step back, or to take any named number of paces, men will come to the *short trail*.

**62. To sling arms****1. With unfixed bayonets.****Sling—Arms.**

The sling of the rifle having been loosened to the full extent, the soldier will pass his head and right arm between the sling and rifle, muzzle upwards, rifle hanging diagonally across the back.

**2. With fixed bayonets.****Sling—Arms.**

The sling of the rifle having been loosened sufficiently, the rifle will be slung by passing the sling over the right or left shoulder, with the rifle hanging in a perpendicular position behind the shoulder.

The rifle will be carried slung by dismounted signallers, brakesmen and drivers leading pack animals.

**63. The on-guard from the slope and vice versa**

(See Sec. 81.)

**1. On-Guard—One.**

Seize the rifle with the right hand smartly at the small.

**Two.**

Bring the rifle down in front of the body, bayonet pointing to the front and slightly upwards, grasping it with the right hand at the small of the butt (which should be just in front

of the right thigh), and with the left hand holding the rifle in the most convenient position in front of the backsight so that the left arm is only slightly bent. At the same time take a short pace forward with the left foot; left knee slightly bent.

## 2. Slope Arms—One.

Place the rifle on the left shoulder, seizing the butt with the left hand as for the *slope*, at the same time bring the left foot back to the right and turn to the front.

## Two.

Cut away the right hand to the side.

## 64. The on-guard from the order and vice versa

### 1. On—Guard.

Throw the rifle up with the right hand and come smartly to the *on-guard* position, as described in Sec. 63, 1, at “Two”.

### 2. Order Arms—One.

Seize the rifle with the right hand where it is held at the order, and come to the *order*, at the same time bring the left foot back to the right and turn to the front, steadying the rifle with the left hand.

## Two.

Cut away the left hand to the side.

## 65. The high-port from the on-guard and vice versa

### 1. High—Port.

Keeping the grasp of the rifle as in the *on-guard* position, bring the rifle to a diagonal position across the front of the body. The muzzle pointing upwards, magazine to the front and butt sufficiently advanced to enable it to be brought instantly to the shoulder to fire.

### 2. On—Guard.

Return to the *on-guard* position.

## 66. To ground arms and take up arms, from and to the order

### 1. Ground Arms—One.

Bend down and place the rifle gently on the ground at the right side, the band in line with the right toe, magazine to the right, muzzle pointing straight to the front.

## Two.

Return smartly to the position of *attention*.

## 2. Take up Arms—One.

Bend down and seize the rifle with the right hand where it is held at the *order*.

## Two.

Pick up the rifle and return smartly to the *order*.

## 67. Piling and unpling arms

### 1. Piling arms.

#### Pile Arms—One.

The front rank will turn about, placing the butts of their rifles between their feet. The odd numbers will turn the magazines of their rifles towards the right flank of the squad, the even numbers towards the left flank of the squad, at the same time the rear rank will take a pace forward, turning the magazines of their rifles to the rear.

## Two.

The odd numbers of the front rank will seize the rifles of the even numbers with the left hand crossing the muzzles, magazines turned outwards, at the same time raising the piling swivels with the forefinger and thumb of both hands.

The even numbers of the front rank will resume the position of *attention*.

## Three.

The even numbers of the rear rank will incline their muzzles to the front and place their rifles under their right arms, guards uppermost, at the same time seizing the piling swivel with the forefinger and thumb of the left hand. They will then link swivels through the crossed muzzles of the front rank, lower the butts to the ground, placing them six inches to the right of and in line with their right toes.

## Four.

The odd numbers of the rear rank, and supernumerary rank (if any), will place their rifles perpendicularly against the pile nearest to them and resume the position of *attention*.

**Stand—Clear.**

Ranks will step back one pace and turn to the right flank of the squad, i.e. the front rank turns to the left and the rear rank to the right.

i. If ranks have been changed the squad, etc., will be renumbered before arms are piled.

ii. If piling arms on parade the command *Fall—Out* will be given after *Stand—Clear*. On again falling in the men will place themselves as they stood before falling out.

**2. Unpiling arms.****Stand—To.**

Ranks will turn inwards and take a pace forward.

**Unpile Arms—One.**

The whole will seize their rifles at the band with the right hand.

**Two.**

The whole will incline their butts inwards until the swivels become unlinked, and return to the order, at the same time the original left-hand man of the front rank will raise his disengaged arm to an angle of 135 degrees, the rear rank looking in his direction.

**Three.**

Taking the time from the original left-hand man of the front rank, who will cut his hand to his side, the front rank will turn about and the rear rank will turn their head and eyes to the front and take a pace to the rear.

**68. Saluting with the rifle at the slope****1. Saluting to the front.****i. By numbers.****Salute by Numbers—One.**

Bring the right hand smartly to the butt, forefinger just below the small of the butt, forearm horizontal, back of the hand uppermost, fingers straight, thumb close to the forefinger.

**Two.**

Cut away the arm smartly to the side by the shortest way.

**ii. Judging the time.****Salute, Judging the Time—Salute.**

Go through the motions as in para. 1, i, above, making a pause equal to two paces in quick time between each motion.

**2. Saluting to the side.**

Saluting to the side when on the move is carried out as in para. 1, above, on the command *Salute*, except that, as the hand is brought to the salute, the head will be turned smartly towards the officer or instructor saluted as the left foot comes to the ground. The principles of saluting with a cane (*see* Sec. 28, 7) apply.

**REVOLVER EXERCISES**

NOTES.—1. The movements laid down in the following section apply only to the Royal Tank Corps.

2. In the case of other arms, men armed with revolvers "prove revolvers" as laid down in Small Arms Training, Vol. I, when the command *For inspection, Port—Arms* is given, and will remain at the "prove" if the command *Examine—Arms* is given.

When arms are *ordered*, they will "return revolvers".

**69. To draw revolvers for inspection and examination****1. To draw revolvers for inspection.****For inspection—Draw.**

The right-hand man will take three paces forward.

**Arms—One.**

Both hands will be carried to the case, the right hand grasping the butt of the revolver and the left hand unfastening the leather tag of the case; elbows to be close to the body; front rank men will turn their heads and eyes to the right looking straight at the right-hand man, who will look to the left.

**Two.**

On a signal given by a forward movement of the right-hand man's left elbow, revolvers will be drawn and brought to a position in front of the body with the left hand grasping the barrel (which should be pointing to the ground); the thumb of the left hand to be on the fluting and in line with



the second button from the top of the tunic, and the thumb of the right hand to be on the barrel catch, pressing it down so as to release the barrel strap. The left elbow should be close to the side and the right elbow in line with the shoulder.

### Three.

Break the revolver by lowering the body from the barrel, the barrel being held vertical; at the same time move the evolver slightly to the left to bring it central as regards the chest.

### Four.

The right-hand man will extend his right arm forward in line with the shoulder and, on seeing everyone ready, will bring it smartly to the side, when the remainder will cut their right hands to the side, and turn their heads and eyes to the front. As soon as the above movement is complete the right-hand man will step back three paces and pick up his dressing and look to the front; the inspection of the trigger, cylinder and butt-stock will follow. (*See Plate X.*)

NOTE.—When parading in two ranks the front rank time their movements by the right-hand man and the rear rank will take their time from the front rank. Ranks will be opened and closed as laid down in Sec. 40.

2. *To examine arms.* (From the position of the final motion of *Draw arms for inspection*) :—

### Examine Arms—One.

The right hand will be carried smartly to the butt.

### Two.

With a movement of the right wrist, the revolver will be carried smartly to the right side, and in a line with the shoulder, barrel pointing to the front ready for inspection, the left hand grasping the top of the barrel; the right elbow to be close to the side; the left elbow to be in line with the shoulders.

### Three.

Cut the left hand smartly to the side. (*See Plate XI.*)  
The inspection of the barrel will follow.

3. *To return arms from the "examine arms".*

### Return.

The left-hand man will take three paces forward.

### Arms—One.

Grasp the barrel smartly with the left hand, knuckles uppermost and the thumb on the fluting of the cylinder, the front rank men turning the head and eyes to the left, looking straight at the left-hand man, who will look to the right. On completion of the movement the right elbow should be close to the side and the left elbow in line with the shoulder.

### Two.

Bring the revolver to a position in front of the body, barrel pointing to the ground (and the thumb of the left hand in line with the second button).

### Three.

Make the revolver gently but firmly, by bringing the body over to the barrel.

### Four.

Taking the time from the left-hand man, the revolver will be returned to the case and the leather tag secured.

### Five.

The left-hand man will extend his right arm forward in line with the shoulder and, on seeing everyone steady, will bring it smartly to the side as a signal to the remainder to cut away their hands to the side and for the front rank to turn their heads and eyes to the front.

As soon as the above movement is completed the left-hand man will take three paces to the rear and pick up his dressing and look to the front.

### SWORD EXERCISES

NOTE.—The following sections deal with elementary instruction in sword drill. Details regarding sword drill for ceremonial parades are included in the *Manual of Ceremonial*; fighting with the sword is dealt with in *Cavalry Training*.

## 70. Dismounted sword drill

With slings (a)	With Sam Browne equipment (b)
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1. *The position of attention.***Attention.**

The sword (or empty scabbard) will be held upright by the side, the shoe of the scabbard resting on the ground close to the left foot and just in front of the heel. The left arm will be extended, the hand round the scabbard, thumb in front, fingers in rear, back of the hand outwards.

The scabbard is held close to the side by the left hand, thumb in front, forefinger down the scabbard, remaining fingers in rear, back of the hand outwards.

2. *To draw swords.***Draw Swords—One.**

Raise the scabbard until the forearm is horizontal, grasping the back (for officers' swords upper) ring with the thumb and forefinger, the remaining fingers closed in the hand the thick part of the forearm against the side. At the same time pass the right hand smartly across the body and grasp the handle. Keeping the right forearm horizontal, turn the edge to the rear and straighten the left arm in rear of the thigh, the right arm close to the body, shoulders square to the front.

Pass the right hand smartly across the body and grasp the handle. Draw out the blade until the forearm is horizontal.

**Two.** (Position of the *recover*.)

Draw the sword slowly from the scabbard, and bring it smartly to the *recover*.

Carry the shoe of the scabbard slightly to the rear, draw the sword slowly upwards to the front and bring it smartly to the *recover*,

that is, with the blade perpendicular, edge to the left, upper part of the hilt opposite the mouth, elbow close to the body. At the same time bring the scabbard upright by the side.

**Three.** (Position of the *carry*.)

Lower the sword to the *carry*, that is, with the forearm horizontal, hand in front of the elbow, elbow close to the body, blade perpendicular, edge to the front, forefinger and thumb round the resistance piece, other fingers round the handle, hilt resting on the upper part of the hand.

3. *To slope swords.***Slope—Swords.**

Relax the grasp of the last three fingers, place the little finger behind the handle and allow the back of the sword to fall lightly on the shoulder midway between the neck and point of the shoulder.

4. *To return sword from the carry.***Return Swords—One.**

Carry the hilt smartly to the hollow of the left shoulder, blade perpendicular, edge to the left, forearm horizontal. At the same time, with the left hand, bring the mouth of the scabbard forward about three inches, grasping the back (for officers' swords, upper) ring with the thumb and forefinger and turning the edge to the left rear.

Carry the hilt smartly to the hollow of the left shoulder, blade perpendicular, edge to the left, elbow level with the shoulder, at the same time carrying the shoe of the scabbard slightly to the rear.

Then by a quick turn of the right wrist, drop the point into the scabbard and resume the position at the end of the first

With slings

(a)

With Sam Browne  
equipment

(b)

motion of draw swords, shoulders being kept square to the front throughout this motion.

**Two.**

Push the sword lightly into the scabbard, the right hand remaining across the body in line with the elbow, fingers extended and close together, back of the hand up, and bring the sword to the position of attention.

**Three.**

Drop the right hand smartly to the side.

**5. To stand at ease.****i. With the sword in the scabbard.****Stand at Ease—One.**

Carry the left foot and the scabbard about 12 inches to the left, so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet.

At the same time carry the hands behind the back and place the back of the right in the palm of the left, grasping it lightly with the fingers and thumb, and allow the arms to hang easily to their full extent.

**Two.**

Place the palm of the left hand on the top of the hilt, the right arm hanging by the side.

**Three.**

Push the sword to the front to the full extent of the arm.

**ii. With the sword drawn from the slope.**

As with the sword in the scabbard, except that the palm of the left hand is placed on the mouth of the scabbard instead of on the hilt of the sword and the sword is retained at the slope.

Carry the left foot about 12 inches to the left, the sword remaining at the slope. The left hand grasping the scabbard as in the position of attention.

**6. The position of attention from stand-at-ease.**

(With the sword drawn or in the scabbard.)

**Attention—One.**

Bring the sword (or empty scabbard) upright by the side, palm of the left hand on the hilt of the sword or mouth of the scabbard.

Grasp the scabbard with the left hand, thumb in front, forefinger down the scabbard, remaining fingers in rear, back of the hand outwards.

**Two.**

Grasp the scabbard with the left hand just below the rings, hand round the scabbard, thumb in front, fingers in rear, back of the hand outwards.

**Three.**

Bring the left foot and the sword (or empty scabbard) up to the right.

**Two.**

Bring the left foot and the sword (or empty scabbard) up to the right.

**Note.**—When troops are armed with rifles, these movements will be combined into one motion.

When troops are armed with swords with slings, the movements will be carried out with the first and third motions shown in the column opposite.



With slings (a)	With Sam Browne equipment (b)
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7. *Quick march.***Quick—March.**

Raise the sword (or empty scabbard) smartly with the left hand at the first pace, without stooping or disturbing the position of the body. Grasp the scabbard at the point of balance and hold it at an angle of 45 degrees with the ground, fingers round the scabbard, thumb along the edge, arm fully extended.

The sword (or empty scabbard) will be kept steady by the side by the left hand.

8. *To halt.***Halt.**

Lower the sword, or empty scabbard, to the ground and assume the position of attention.

Assume the position of attention.

9. *To dismiss.***Dis—miss.**

As when dismissing without arms, swords having previously been returned.

10. When the greatcoat is worn in review order the sword belt will be worn outside the tunic under the sash; the sword being hooked up and the hilt passed through the slit in the greatcoat.

NOTE.—For instruction in funeral exercises, see Manual of Ceremonial.

**71. Mounted sword drill**1. *To draw swords.***Draw Swords—One.**

Pass the right hand smartly across the body over the bridle arm, draw out the blade so as to rest the hilt on the

bridle arm, place the sword knot on the wrist, give it two or more turns to secure it, and then grasp the handle with the right arm close to the body, shoulders square to the front.

**Two.**

With the extended arm draw the sword slowly from the scabbard and bring it smartly to the *recover*.

**Three.** (Position of the *carry*.)

Lower the sword smartly to the *carry*, that is, with the guard resting on the hand, blade perpendicular, edge to the front, the first, second, and third fingers gripping the handle under the resistance piece, the little finger behind the handle to steady it, the wrist resting on the thigh and the pommel pressed against the inside of it, upper part of the arm close to the body, and the elbow lightly touching the hip. (Fig. 1.)

2. *To slope swords.***Slope—Swords.**

Raise the hand until the forearm is horizontal, keeping the upper arm perpendicular, hand in front of the elbow, relax the grasp of the second and third fingers, and allow the sword to fall lightly on the shoulder, midway between the neck and point of the shoulder, the guard still resting on the hand, the little finger still in rear of the handle. (Fig. 2.)

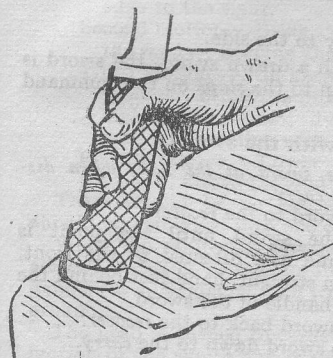


FIG. 1.

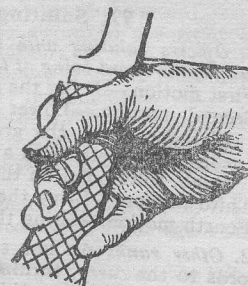


FIG. 2.

3. *To sit at ease.* (From the *slope*.)**Sit at—Ease.**

Place the hands on the front part of the saddle, with the right hand over the left, without removing the sword from the shoulder.

4. **Attention.**

Come smartly to the position of the *slope*.

5. *Return swords.* (From the *carry*.)**Return Swords—One.**

Carry the hilt smartly to the hollow of the left shoulder, blade perpendicular, edge to the left, forearm horizontal. Then by a quick turn of the wrist drop the point into the scabbard and resume the position at the end of the first motion of *draw swords*, shoulders being kept square to the front throughout this motion.

**Two.**

Push the sword lightly into the scabbard, release the hand from the sword knot by giving it two or more turns outwards, the right hand remaining across the body in line with the elbow, fingers extended and close together, back of the hand up.

**Three.**

Drop the right hand smartly to the side.

6. *Proving*.—In proving with a drawn sword, the sword is brought to the *carry*, and again to the *slope* on the command *As you were*.

**72. Saluting with the sword**

1. *Officers saluting with the sword at the halt, when dismounted, the sword being at the carry.*

First motion.—Bring the sword to the *recover*.

Second motion.—Lower the sword until the point is 12 inches from the ground and directed to the front, edge to the left, right arm straight, hand just behind the thigh, thumb flat on the handle of the sword.

Third motion.—Bring the sword back to the *recover*.

Fourth motion.—Bring the sword down to the *carry*.

2. *Other ranks* do not salute as above, but bring their swords to the *carry*, turning the head and eyes towards the officers saluted if passing him.

3. *Officers saluting with the sword when on parade with dismounted troops armed with rifles.*

On the command *Present—Arms*, bring the sword to the *recover* with the first motion of the rifle and lower the sword to the *salute* with the third motion of the rifle. On the command *Slope—Arms*, bring the sword to the *recover* with the first motion of the rifle, and to the *carry* with the second motion of the rifle.

When wearing a sword in a scabbard, officers will salute with the hand.

4. *Officers saluting with the sword at the halt, when mounted.*

Officers salute as described in para. 1, above, except that after the *recover* the sword is lowered to the front to the full extent of the arm, blade three inches below the knee, edge to the left, thumb extended in the direction of the point, hand directly under the shoulder. The sword is then brought to the *recover* and down to the *carry* as in Sec. 71, 1, sub-para. 3.

5. *Officers saluting with the sword when on the move.*

1. *When dismounted* :—

First motion.—Carry the sword direct to the right to the full extent of the arm, hand as high as the shoulder, back of the hand to the rear, blade perpendicular, edge to the right.

Second motion.—Bring the sword by a circular motion to the *recover*, keeping the elbow as high as the shoulder.

Third motion.—Still keeping the elbow the height of the shoulder, bring the hilt to the right shoulder, hand as high as the elbow; during this motion let the finger nails come in line with the edge of the sword.

Fourth motion.—Lower the sword to the front as in para. 1, above (Second motion).

There should be no pause between these motions; all should be combined into one easy movement.

When the salute has finished the sword is brought to the *recover*, carrying it well in front, and to the *carry*, in two deliberate movements, each time as the left foot comes to the ground.

The head is turned towards the officer saluted on the first motion of the salute and is turned to the front again on the first motion of the *recover*.

The first motion of the salute will be made as the left foot comes to the ground, and the salute will be carried over four

paces, the fourth motion being given as the right foot comes to the ground.

At the *recover* a pause of one pace will be made, and on the following pace the sword will be brought to the *carry*, i.e. as the left foot comes to the ground.

ii. *When mounted*.—Mounted officers will salute similarly, the four motions being combined into one easy movement. They will lower the sword to the front to the full extent of the arm, blade three inches below the knee, hand directly under the shoulder.

6. When swords are drawn, all ranks will hold the sword at the *carry* when addressing an officer.

In addition, officers on approaching a superior will do so at the *carry*, and will halt three paces from him and salute; they will salute again on leaving him.

7. The salute before dismissing (at the conclusion of parade). On the command *Fall Out the Officers*, officers will march up to the officer commanding the parade at the *carry*, halt five paces from him and salute. After saluting, officers will return swords, and form up in rear of the commander until the parade is dismissed.

## CHAPTER V

### SALUTING

#### 73. General instructions

1. Instructors will impress upon recruits the importance of the salute. It is a military method of greeting a superior, not a servile act. It is an outward sign of the inward spirit of discipline and respect for superiors. The general tone and feeling in a regiment or corps is indicated as much by the manner in which the men salute and the officers return the salute as by any other action.

2. Instruction in saluting forms part of recruit training; the detail for saluting is included in the sequence in which it should be taught in the chapters dealing with squad drill, i.e.

Saluting without arms	...	...	Sec. 17
Saluting with the cane (or whip)	...	...	Sec. 28
Saluting when carrying the rifle	...	...	Sec. 68
Saluting with the sword	...	...	Sec. 72

3. Officers paying compliments by saluting with the hand will follow the instructions laid down for soldiers. They will receive and return a salute with the courtesy it deserves.

4. The salute will be given with the right hand. In cases where from physical incapacity a right-hand salute is impossible, the salute will be given with the left hand.

5. Officers will be saluted at all times, whether in uniform or plain clothes.

When two or more officers are together, the senior only, whether in uniform or not, will return salutes, but in cases such as groups of officers at conferences, or on other occasions, when salutes are likely to pass unnoticed by the senior, another officer will be detailed to return them. This is especially necessary when men salute officers in a closed motor car.

6. Officers or soldiers passing troops with uncased standards, guidons or colours will salute the standard, etc., except when carried by units forming part of the escort at a military funeral. (*See Manual of Ceremonial.*)

Cased standards, etc., will not be saluted.



7. Officers, soldiers and colours passing a military funeral will salute the bier.

8. Instructions for saluting when the National Anthem is played for a Royal salute, or on other occasions, are laid down in King's Regulations, 1928, para. 889.

Commanders of parties will, if on the move, halt, call their men to attention and salute (officers with drawn swords coming to the *carry*) while the National Anthem is being played.

When in plain clothes all ranks will remove their head-dress and stand at *attention*.

Sentries will *slope arms*.

#### 74. Instructions for saluting without arms

##### 1. *Passing an officer.*

i. When a soldier passes an officer he will salute on the third pace before reaching him, and lower the hand on the third pace after passing him; if carrying a cane he will place it smartly under the left arm, cutting away the hand before saluting. (See Sec. 28, 7.) During the salute the soldier will look the officer full in the face.

ii. Recruits will be practised in marching two or three together, saluting points being placed on either side. When several men are together, the man nearest to the point will give the time.

They should be practised in saluting officers on the move as well as fixed saluting points.

##### 2. *When sitting.*

A soldier, if sitting when an officer approaches, will stand at *attention*, facing the officer, and salute with the hand; if two or more men are sitting or standing about the senior warrant officer, N.C.O., or oldest soldier will face the officer, call the whole to *attention*, and alone will salute (as above).

##### 3. *When addressing or delivering a message to an officer.*

When a soldier addresses or delivers a written message to an officer he will halt two paces from him and proceed as in Sec. 28, 6.

When appearing before an officer in a room, he will salute without removing his cap.

##### 4. *When without a cap, etc.*

A soldier without his cap, or when carrying anything other than his arms, will not salute, but will, if standing still, come to *attention* as an officer passes; if walking, he will turn his head smartly towards the officer in passing him, keeping his arms steady by the side.

##### 5. *When riding a horse.*

i. An officer riding without arms will pay compliments by saluting with the right hand.

ii. A soldier mounted without arms will salute as follows:—

When riding with both hands on the reins a soldier passing an officer will turn his head and eyes in the direction of the officer, without moving his hands.

When holding the reins in one hand only, he will drop the right hand to the full extent of the arm behind the right thigh, fingers half closed, back of the hand to the right, and turn his head in the direction of the officer.

iii. *When riding a horse of a team in a wagon or limber.* (See Manual of Horsemastership, Equitation and Driving, 1929, Sec. 80, 2.)

6. *When driving a horsed vehicle.* (See Manual of Horsemastership, Equitation and Driving, 1929, Sec. 97, 5.)

##### 7. *When driving a mechanical vehicle (including bicycles).*

The rider of a bicycle (pedal or motor) or driver of a mechanical vehicle, will not salute when the vehicle is in motion, owing to the danger of taking the eyes off the road.

When the vehicle is stationary, he will salute by turning his head smartly towards an officer passing him, but will not remove his hands from the handlebar or steering wheel.

##### 8. *When seated on or in a horsed or mechanical vehicle.*

i. Officers will pay compliments by saluting with the right hand, if possible; otherwise they will follow the instructions laid down for soldiers.

ii. Soldiers will sit at attention and, if facing the direction in which the vehicle is moving, will salute by turning the head and eyes in the direction of the officer. If seated facing in any other direction, they will look straight to their own front.

9. *Officers.*—An officer without arms will salute with the hand as laid down in Sec. 17.

## 75. Instructions for saluting when carrying a rifle

### 1. *At the halt.*

A soldier, if halted, will salute as follows :—

- i. If at the *order* when an officer passes he will turn towards the officer and stand to *attention*.
- ii. If at the *slope* when an officer passes he will salute as laid down in Sec. 68, 1.

The salute will begin three paces before the officer passes the soldier and the hand will be cut away on the third pace after he has passed him.

### 2. *On the move.*

When a soldier, carrying a rifle, passes an officer, he will do so at the *slope*, and will salute as laid down in Sec. 68, 2 ; at the same time turning the head towards the officer saluted and looking him full in the face. He will salute on the third pace before reaching him, and will cut the hand away and turn the head to the front on the third pace after passing him.

### 3. *Delivering messages to or addressing officers.*

When a soldier, carrying a rifle, delivers a written message to or addresses an officer he will do so at the *slope*. Unless the officer is on the move, the soldier will halt two paces from the officer, salute as laid down in Sec. 68, 1, and deliver the message ; if no reply is needed or when the reply is received, he will salute as before, turn about and march off in quick time.

## CHAPTER VI

### GUARDS AND SENTRIES\*

#### 76. Guard mounting

1. *Parading.*—All guard (or piquet) duties will be paraded and inspected on the squadron, battery or company parade ground, and marched by the squadron, etc., orderly serjeant to the regimental, etc., parade ground.

2. *Forming up.*—Duties will be formed up in line. The guards on the right, piquets on the left, with the attending man two paces in rear of and covering the right-hand file of his guard or piquet. If the guard is commanded by an officer,† he will be two paces in front of the centre, and the senior N.C.O. on the right of the guard ; if the guard is commanded by a N.C.O. he will be on the right of the guard, and will not be covered ; the next senior N.C.O. (if any) being on the left, and will not be covered.

3. Guards and duties will then be inspected by the adjutant or orderly officer.

After inspection the adjutant (or orderly officer) will order guards and piquets to be marched off and duties to be dismissed.

#### 77. General rules

1. *Turning out.*—When guards turn out they will move at the double and fall in with *sloped arms* (lances at the *order*) in open order, as laid down in Sec. 76, 2. The trumpeter or bugler two paces on the right flank of the senior N.C.O.

When the guard is commanded by an officer he will be three paces in front of the centre of the guard.

2. *Turning in.*—Arms at the *slope* (lances at the *shoulder*). The commander of the guard will give the command *Dis—miss*.

It is unnecessary to close ranks before dismissing.

\* *Royal Tank Corps.*—The personal weapon is the revolver. The following instructions are generally applicable to guards mounted for ceremonial purposes, with the exception that, in paying and returning compliments, commanders of guards and sentries will salute with the hand instead of presenting arms.

† During guard mounting officers' swords will be at the *carry*.

3. Unless otherwise laid down locally, if a guard mounts with a colour it will be told off in two divisions and the posts of officers will be as laid down for a guard of honour in the Manual of Ceremonial.

The officer carrying the colour, when present, will march in the centre of the guard.

4. Guards, including reliefs, rounds and patrols, will march with sloped arms and bayonets fixed (lances at the shoulder).

5. Guards, rounds and reliefs on the march meeting their Majesties the King or Queen (except when they are riding in motor cars) when accompanied by an escort or driving to or from an official ceremony or on any official or state occasion, will *halt*, turn in the required direction, and *present arms*. When passing Their Majesties riding in motor cars, and on all other occasions, and to other persons entitled to a salute, they will pass on with *sloped arms* (lances at the *carry*) paying the compliment *Eyes—Right* (or *Left*).

6. Guards will not turn out after retreat or before reveille, except at tattoo, on the approach of an armed party, in cases of an alarm, or to receive grand or visiting rounds; nor will they during this period pay any compliments, except to grand rounds, to whom they will present arms (*carry* swords or lances).

7. Sentries will not present arms to any officer or armed party (except grand rounds) after dark. As long as sentries can discern an officer, they will halt and turn to their front on his approach, and pay the correct compliments.

8. All guards will turn out at the commencement of *réveille*, *retreat* and *tattoo* sounding; the commanders will then inspect them.

9. For compliments paid by sentries, *see* King's Regulations.

#### 78. Relieving, posting or dismissing a guard

1. When the ground admits, a new guard will advance in line towards the front of the old guard, and will be drawn up, when possible, 15 paces in front, or when not possible, six paces from the left of the old guard facing in the same direction.

2. As soon as this is completed, the old guard will present arms (*carry* swords or lances), and the new guard will return the salute. Commanders of guards will, if officers, salute with the sword; if N.C.O.s., they will present arms (*carry* swords or lances), at the same time as the men.

3. Both guards will in like successive manner slope arms, order arms (*slope* swords or *order* lances), and stand at ease.

4. The guard will then be told off and the first relief sent out. When the first relief of the new guard is sent out, a corporal belonging to the old guard will accompany it to bring in the relieved sentries. If the relief moves in line, he will be on the left flank, if in file (or single file) he will be at the head of the front rank of files (or rank). As soon as all the sentries are relieved, the two corporals will change places and the corporal of the old guard will assume command. While the relief is marching round, the commander will take over the property in charge of the guard according to the list on the inventory board, at the same time checking the list in the old guard report.

5. When the reliefs have returned, and all the men of the old guard have fallen in, both guards will be called to attention and ordered to slope arms (*slope* swords or *carry* lances).

6. The old guard will then move off, in line if possible, otherwise in fours or file, the new guard presenting arms (*carrying* swords or lances), the commander of the old guard giving *Eyes—right* (or *Left*).

7. When the old guard is clear of the ground, the new guard will slope arms (*slope* swords or *order* lances) and if not already there, will move on to the same alignment occupied by the old guard. Arms will then be ordered and the commander of the guard will read and explain the orders of the guard to his men; these orders will also be read and explained to the men forming the first relief when they come off sentry. The men of the guard will then be dismissed to the guard room.

8. If it is necessary to pay compliments during guard mounting, words of command will be given to both guards by the senior officer or N.C.O. on parade.

9. The old guard will be marched to the regimental parade ground and after inspection dismissed.



### 79. Procedure for a guard (and piquet) turning out for inspection by an officer

1. On the command *Guard, turn out* the guard (and piquet) will double out of the guard room and fall in as laid down in Sec. 77, 1. The guard commander will salute and report "*All correct*" or otherwise to the inspecting officer.

2. The inspecting officer will inspect the guard, piquet, guard room, cells, etc., accompanied by the guard commander, who will take one pace forward, turn to his left and then accompany the inspecting officer.

When the inspection is completed the guard commander will resume his original position.

Having received instructions from the inspecting officer to *Turn in the guard (and piquet)* the guard commander will act as laid down in Sec. 77, 2. He will then turn towards the inspecting officer and salute. Having completed his salute he will accompany the inspecting officer on his inspection of the sentries.

3. When a guard is turned out for inspection by a station or brigade commander, the guard will fall in as laid down in Sec. 77, 1, but on the approach of the officer, the commander of the guard will order *Guard, Present—Arms* (*Carry* swords or lance), when the guard, including the N.C.O. in charge, will present arms (*carry* swords or lances). This will be followed, after a suitable pause, by *Guard, Slope—Arms* (*slope* swords or *carry* lances).

The guard commander, if an N.C.O., will remain on the right of the guard during the inspection by the station or brigade commander.

On receiving instructions to turn in the guard the procedure will be as in Sec. 77, 2.

### 80. Posting, movements by and relieving sentries, and marching reliefs

#### 1. Posting sentries.

When a sentry who is to be posted on a new post has reached the post assigned to him, he will be ordered to halt and face in the required direction. The corporal will then read and explain the orders to him; the object for which he is posted, the front of his post, and the extent of his beat.

#### 2. Movements by sentries.

Sentries when moving off on their beat will turn to the right and left correctly and will move in quick time at the *slope* (lance at the *support*). On arrival at the end of their beat they will turn outwards to the left or right about, as the case may be, without halting. When halted they will face their front and stand properly at ease. They will not halt on their beat except in front of the sentry box, unless to pay a compliment or when challenging.

Except in the execution of their duty sentries must not quit their post or converse with anyone. They will not stand in their sentry boxes in good or even in moderate weather.

They will always be alert to pay compliments.

#### 3. Relieving sentries.

##### Relief—Halt.

On the approach of the relief, the sentry, with his rifle or sword at the *slope*, lance at the *carry*, will place himself in front of the sentry box. The corporal of the relief will halt the relief at about two paces from the sentry.

The new sentry will then move out from the relief and fall in on the left of the old sentry, facing in the same direction; the old sentry will then give over his orders, the corporal seeing that they are correctly given and understood.\*

*Note.*—If armed with the sword or lance both sentries will *carry* arms whilst giving over their orders and will remain at the *carry* until the *pass* has been carried out.

##### Pass.

The old sentry will move to his place in the relief, and the new sentry will close two paces to his right.

##### Relief. Quick—March.

The relief will be marched off.

4. *Marching reliefs.*—Reliefs of fewer than four men will be formed in single rank, when of four men, or upwards, they will be formed into two ranks. (In streets, or narrow places, reliefs should always be marched in single file.) When marching in line, the corporal will be two paces in rear of the centre; when in file (or single file) he will be on the right of the rear file (or man).

\* On the first time of posting, the N.C.O. will read over and explain the orders to the sentry and ensure that they are understood.

### 81. Sentries challenging

1. A sentry will challenge a person or party approaching his post, when he is doubtful as to whether the person or party approaching is authorized to pass or suspicious as to his or their reasons for approaching. Challenging is also necessary in special cases, such as that of a sentry posted on a fortress or prison, or when a password has to be delivered. (See also Sec. 83.)

2. When challenging on the part of a sentry is necessary, it will be carried out as follows:—

i. When a person or party approaches the post, the sentry will, as soon as the person or party is within speaking distance, call out, *Halt*; and when the person or party has halted, *Advance one*,\* at the same time coming to *On-Guard* ("Engage" with sword or lance); if, and when, the sentry is satisfied as to the identity of the person or party, he will say: *Pass, Friend—All's well*; remaining *On-Guard*, etc., until the person or party has passed.

ii. If in answer to the challenge the sentry receives the reply *Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds*, he will call out: *Stand, Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds—Advance one*,\* the sentry remaining *On-Guard*, etc., until he has identified the person approaching or until he has received the pass-word. When satisfied the sentry will say: *Pass, Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds—All's well*; presenting arms, etc., as they pass in the case of grand rounds, sloping arms, etc., as they pass in the case of visiting rounds.

Where challenging is unnecessary, grand or visiting rounds will inform the sentry as to their identity on approaching his post, the sentry presenting arms, etc., in the case of grand rounds and remaining at the slope in the case of visiting rounds.

3. If the sentry is on or near the guard-room door, he will proceed as in Sec. 82.

### 82. Guards turning out at night

1. Where the sentry is not directed to challenge, grand or visiting rounds will inform the sentry as to their identity on approaching his post, the sentry will then call: *Guard—Turn out*. The guard will fall in with bayonets fixed and arms

\* *Advance one* means that one person only is to advance for identification.

sloped, etc., and the commander will call out: *Advance, Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds—All's well*; to grand rounds he will present, etc.; to visiting rounds he will remain at the slope, etc.

2. Where the sentry challenges and there is no password to be delivered, the same procedure as above will be observed, the sentry turning out the guard on receiving the reply *Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds*) to his challenge.

3. If there is a password to be given, a corporal or serjeant with a man of the guard will double out and when about ten paces from the rounds will order the man to halt; bring him to the *On-Guard* (or "Engage") and will then give the challenge: *Who comes there*. The reply will again be *Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds*; the N.C.O. calling: *Stand, Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds—Advance one*. Rounds will then in a low voice give the password, which the N.C.O. alone will carry, in double time, for verification to the commander of the guard. If correct the commander of the guard will call out: *Advance, Grand* (or *Visiting*) *Rounds—All's well*. The man will then double back to the guard, and rounds will advance to the guard, which will present arms, etc., to grand rounds.

### 83. Guards mounted for protection

NOTE.—The foregoing sections deal with guards mounted in normal conditions. When they are mounted for reasons of security or when there is any likelihood of the guard or its sentries being attacked, the following general rules should be observed:—

#### GENERAL

1. The general principle adopted by all protective guards in carrying out their duties will be based on action adopted by protective detachments in war.

2. Compliments will not be paid unless specially ordered.

3. The order of dress for guard mounting, and whether ammunition is to be carried, will be at the discretion of local commanders.

4. When it is necessary to mount guards for the defence of barracks, special arrangements should be made for the examination of men returning from leave; sentries mounted for defensive purposes should not be concerned with checking in men returning from leave.

## OPENING FIRE

5. All members of the guard should be conversant with the provisions of King's Regulations, 1928, paragraphs 1251 to 1254, and should be warned that, in the absence of direct orders to open fire, they should not do so except when lives and property are seriously and immediately endangered.

## RELIEVING, POSTING, OR DISMISSING A GUARD

6. The procedure laid down in Sec. 78 will be varied as necessary at the discretion of local commanders.

## TURNING OUT

7. Guards will not turn out as in Sec. 77, unless specially ordered. Men will be told off to the positions they are to occupy for the defence of the post, which they will man when the guard is ordered to "stand to."

## SENTRIES

8. Sentries will be relieved without ceremony.

9. Sentry posts will be selected with regard to the sentry's task, and his own personal safety and security against surprise.

10. A sentry will not be tied down to a fixed beat as laid down in Sec. 80. He should normally be posted behind cover.

11. In addition to the sentry outside the guard room or post, a second sentry should be posted within the guard room. When rifles are locked in the guard room, the inner sentry, unless armed with a revolver, should retain his rifle.

12. Single sentries should not be posted where their posts cannot be covered by fire from the guard position when "standing to". When it is necessary for a sentry to be maintained in an isolated spot, a second guard of not less than three men under a N.C.O. should be posted and the post should be prepared for defence.

13. In special cases it may be necessary to post double sentries, in which case they will normally be relieved alternately.

14. The method of challenging will be as follows :—

The sentry will not disclose his position: he will cover the approaching person or party with his rifle and order "*Halt. Hands Up*" in the language most suitable to the locality; then, "*Guard, stand to*".

When the guard is standing to, the person or party halted will be interrogated by a N.C.O. or soldier other than the sentry.



## CHAPTER VII

DRILL FOR RIFLE AND ENGLISH LIGHT  
INFANTRY REGIMENTS

## 84. Squad drill—without arms

The drill is as laid down in Chapters I, II and III with the following exceptions:—

1. *Words of command.*—The word “attention.” is not used. Units come to attention on being named, i.e. *squad, section, party, guard, etc.*, are the executive words of command; cautionary words vary in different regiments.

2. *Time in marching.*—The regimental rate of marching (normally 140 paces a minute) is used for parade purposes and for ceremonial unless otherwise specified (*see Manual of Ceremonial, 1935, Sec. 11, 8*).

3. *Timing of words of command.*—When marching at 140 paces a minute, the timing of executive words of command will be as laid down in the following table:—

Word of command (a)	Quick time (b)
Halt ... ..	Right foot coming to the ground.
About Turn ... ..	Left foot coming to the ground.
Right Turn ... ..	
„ In-cline } ... ..	Right foot coming to the ground.
„ Form } ... ..	
Left Turn ... ..	
„ In-cline } ... ..	Left foot coming to the ground.
„ Form } ... ..	
For-ward (when marking time) ...	Left foot coming to the ground.
Form Fours (front rank in front) ...	Left foot on the ground.
Form Two—Deep (front rank in front)	Ditto.
Form Fours (rear rank in front) ...	Right foot on the ground.
Form Two—Deep (rear rank in front)	Ditto.
Form Fours (from file when on the move; right of squad leading)	Ditto.
Form Two—Deep (right of squad leading)	Ditto.
Form Fours (when on the move; left of squad leading)	Left foot on the ground.
Form Two—Deep (left of squad leading)	Ditto.
Form Squad (right leading) ... ..	Right foot coming to the ground.
Form Squad (left leading) ... ..	Left foot coming to the ground.

Word of command (a)	Quick time (b)
<i>From quick to double time</i>	
Break into double time, Double March.	Left foot coming to the ground.
<i>From Double to Quick time</i>	
Break into quick time, Quick March	Ditto.
Mark Time ... ..	Ditto.
Halt (when marking time) ... ..	Right foot coming to the ground.

## 85. Drill with arms—Rifle regiments only

1. On the move, rifles are carried at the trail, except when in file or single file (*see para. 5, below*) or by riflemen moving independently, when they are carried at the *shoulder* (*see para. 4, 1, below*). Certain modifications to the drill as laid down in Chapter IV are therefore necessary to conform to the movements of the rifle.

2. The word “sword” is used instead of “bayonet.” Swords are not fixed for drill purposes, unless in special circumstances it may be necessary for reasons of security to mount guard with swords fixed.

3. Rifle regiments do not use the “slope arms” position, unless it is necessary to carry swords fixed (*see para. 2, above*), and the various movements to and from that position laid down in Chapter IV do not therefore apply (e.g. Secs. 46 to 49; 57 to 59 and 63).

4. *The following additional movements are used:—*

i. *The shoulder from the order.*

Rifle regiments march at the *shoulder* when moving in file, the men shouldering their arms on the command *Quick—March*, or, if already on the move, on the command which brings them into file.

**Shoulder Arms—One.**

Throw the rifle upwards with the right hand, catching it with the left hand in line with the elbow; at the same time slipping the second finger of the right hand inside the guard, close the first and second fingers on the magazine, thumb and remaining fingers pointing downwards; the upper part of the barrel to rest in the hollow of the shoulder.

**Two.**

Cut the left hand to the side.

**ii. The order from the shoulder.****Order Arms—One.**

Relax the grasp of the right hand and allow the rifle to drop till the butt is within two inches of the ground. At the same time seize the rifle with the left hand at the nose cap, and with the right at the band.

**Two.**

Place the butt quietly on the ground as at the *order*, cutting the left hand to the side.

**iii. The shoulder from the trail.****Shoulder Arms—One.**

Bring the rifle to a perpendicular position, and hold it with the left hand in line with the elbow, then seize it with the right hand as at the *shoulder*.

**Two.**

Cut away the left hand to the side.

**iv. The trail from the shoulder.****Trail Arms—One.**

Seize the rifle with the left hand in line with the elbow and at the same time with the right hand at the point of balance.

**Two.**

Bring the rifle down to the *trail*, at the same time cutting the left hand to the side.

**v. The present from the order.****Present Arms—One.**

Throw the rifle upwards with the right hand, catching it with the left hand at the point of balance; thumb of the left hand in the hollow of the right shoulder, and the right hand at the small of the butt, thumb to the left, elbow to the rear.

**Two.**

Bring the rifle to a perpendicular position in front of the centre of the body, turning the guard to the left; at the same time place the left hand smartly on the stock, wrist

on the magazine, fingers pointing upwards, thumb close to the forefinger, point of the thumb in line with the mouth; left elbow close to the butt, right elbow and butt close to the body.

**Three.**

As in the third motion of the *present* from the *slope*.

**vi. The order from the present.****Order Arms—One.**

Carry the rifle to the right side and seize it with the right hand at the band, and with the left hand round the nose-cap, butt just clear of the ground; at the same time bring the right foot smartly up to the left.

**Two.**

Place the butt quietly on the ground as at the *order*, cutting the left hand away to the side.

**vii. The support from the shoulder, and vice versa.**

To *support arms* from the *shoulder*, carry the rifle horizontally across the body, magazine to the front, rifle on the right forearm, right hand holding the rifle as at the *shoulder*.

The *shoulder* from the *support* is the converse of the above.

NOTE.—The *support* is used by sentries when moving on their beat.

5. The following table shows the movements of the rifle from the *trail* when moving into file, forming fours, etc. :—

Serial (a)	Drill movement (b)	Movement of rifle (c)	When executed (d)
1	From line, turning into file.	From <i>trail</i> to <i>shoulder</i> .*	As the right (or left) foot takes the first pace in the new direction, the left hand being cut away to the side on the next pace of the right (or left) foot.

\* In turning into file after two inclines, the rifle will remain at the *trail* or the first incline and will be brought to the *shoulder* on the second incline.

Serial (a)	Drill movement (b)	Movement of rifle (c)	When executed (d)
2	From file, turning into line.	From <i>shoulder</i> to <i>trail</i> .*	Left hand seizes the rifle in line with the elbow as the right (or left) foot takes the first pace in the new direction: on the second pace with the right (or left) foot the rifle is brought to the trail.
3	Turning about.	Rifle brought to a perpendicular position in front of the right shoulder (as with the cane) and back to the <i>trail</i> .	See Sec. 28, 5.
4	Forming fours from line, on the move.	As in Serial 3.	After completion of pace with the right (or left) foot. The rifle remains in this position until the command "right" or "left" is given.
5	Forming fours from file, on the move.	From <i>shoulder</i> to <i>trail</i> .	Complete the pace with the right (or left) foot, then bring the rifle to the trail in two movements, each being done as the right (or left) foot comes to the ground.
6	Forming two-deep from fours, on the move.	From <i>trail</i> to <i>shoulder</i> .	As in Serial 5, but for <i>trail</i> read <i>shoulder</i> .
7	Forming squad from fours.	As in Serial 3.	Complete the pace with the right (or left) foot, then bring rifle to perpendicular position, returning to the trail on the first pace of the move up into the new alignment.

\* In turning into line after two inclines, the rifle will remain at the *shoulder* for the first incline and be brought to the *trail* on the second incline.

Serial (a)	Drill movement (b)	Movement of rifle (c)	When executed (d)
8	Turning into line from fours.	As in Serial 3.	Complete the pace with the right (or left) foot, then bring the rifle, to perpendicular position, returning to the trail as the squad moves forward in the new direction.

#### 6. Instructions for saluting when carrying a rifle.

##### i. At the halt.

A rifleman if at the shoulder will salute by tapping the sling smartly with the left hand, forearm horizontal, the back of the hand to the front, and the fingers straight.

The salute will commence three paces before the officer passes the soldier and the hand will be cut away on the third pace after he has passed him.

##### ii. On the move.

A rifleman when passing an officer will do so at the *shoulder* and will salute as laid down in sub-para. i, above; at the same time turning the head towards the officer saluted and looking him full in the face. He will salute on the third pace before reaching him and cut the hand away and turn the head to the front on the third pace after passing him.

##### iii. Delivering messages to or addressing officers.

When a rifleman carrying a rifle delivers a written message to or addresses an officer, he will do so at the *shoulder*. Unless the officer is on the move, the soldier will halt two paces from the officer, salute as laid down in the above sub-para., and deliver the message; if no reply is needed or when the reply is received, he will salute as before, turn about and march off in quick time.

#### 86. Drill with arms—English light infantry regiments only

1. Except for ceremonial purposes, English light infantry regiments carry rifles at the *trail* or *shoulder* (Sec. 85, 4, i to iv).



as laid down in Sec. 85, 1, and do not fix bayonets for drill purposes.

2. For ceremonial purposes (including guard mounting) drill with arms is as laid down in Chapter IV.

3. *Instructions for saluting with the rifle*, are as laid down in Sec. 85, 6.

## CHAPTER VIII

### MARCH DISCIPLINE

NOTE.—This chapter deals with points of march discipline which must be known by all ranks; officers should read it in conjunction with Field Service Regulations, Vol. II.

#### 87. Importance of march discipline

1. Units of all arms must be capable of undertaking long and rapid marches in war without loss of numbers and energy. March discipline includes everything which affects the efficiency of men, animals and vehicles before, during and after a march. It involves close and constant attention to many points of administration before and after every march, and to a number of rules during the march itself. In a well trained unit these rules should be so well understood that correct procedure is carried out automatically and all action during the march and at halts is taken quickly and quietly.

2. Slackness in march discipline not only causes discomfort in the unit itself but may cause disaster through troops arriving late or too exhausted to take an effective part in battle, or through roads becoming congested and blocked. The importance of march discipline cannot therefore be exaggerated and all ranks must realize their responsibility in co-operating to maintain the necessary high standard.

3. March discipline which breaks down at a time of crisis is of little value; the longer and more trying the march, the more strictly must it be enforced.

#### 88. General rules

##### BEFORE MARCHING

1. Men and animals should start a march as fresh as possible. They should therefore not be roused any earlier than is necessary.

2. Quarters, camps and halting places must be left clean and tidy. All refuse must be buried or burnt and latrines filled in and marked.

3. The comfort and health of men on the march depend to a great extent on their clothing being in good condition and equipment well-fitted; well-fitting saddlery and harness is essential if casualties among animals are to be prevented; finally, if the loads of vehicles and pack transport animals are not evenly distributed and well packed, or if authorized loads are exceeded, an undue strain will be placed on the animals or engines and break-downs will occur. Strict attention to all these points is therefore necessary before every march.

#### ON THE MARCH

4. Unless opened out on either side of the road by order of the commander of a column troops will march well in on the rule of the road side—e.g. on the left of the road in Great Britain and India, on the right in all European countries other than Great Britain—leaving the other side clear for other traffic.

5. An officer, when available (otherwise a N.C.O.) will march in rear of each squadron, battery, company or other unit, to see that no man leaves the ranks without permission, that the troops, vehicles and animals keep properly closed up and that the column does not open out.

6. The rate of marching throughout a column should be uniform; an irregular pace is most exhausting, especially to the troops in rear of the column.

7. The first condition for good march discipline is that dressing and covering, and in dismounted units step, are correctly kept.

8. If distances are lost, stepping out, doubling or trotting to regain them is forbidden, except by order of the unit commander. Infantry will only be ordered to quicken its pace if a defile is to be passed or some definite object is to be gained.

9. No man is allowed to fall out on the march without the written permission of an officer to do so. N.C.Os. or men will not fall out to take care of sick men without written permission.

10. No-one, not authorized to do so, is to ride or place his arms or equipment on a vehicle without written permission to do so; such permission will only be given in special cases and will apply only to empty vehicles.

11. Strict attention must be paid to water discipline; the less men drink during the actual march, the better; men should not be allowed to drink from their water-bottles without permission. They are not to be permitted to fall out for water.

#### HALTS

12. A warning whistle will be sounded one minute before each halt, when troops will march at attention. The signal or command to halt will be given by commanders of squadrons, batteries and companies; troops will await orders before falling out.

13. Units will fall out on the side of the road on which they are marching (except that when the situation permits officers may fall out on the other side).

14. At long halts latrine trenches should invariably be dug.

15. A warning whistle will be sounded one minute before the end of the halt. Troops will be formed up (and mounted in the case of mounted troops and transport) ready to advance on the signal or command being given by commanders of squadrons, batteries and companies.

#### 89. Additional rules for mounted troops and animal transport

1. Before commencing a march all commanders should make certain that saddlery or harness is correct, that shoeing has been properly attended to, and that animals and vehicles are fit for the march.

Materials such as bandages or old puttees should be taken to prevent or cure minor leg injuries and for leg bandages. Each farrier-serjeant or transport-serjeant should carry a small supply of numnah or blanket material to make any slight alterations in the fitting of saddles or harness.

2. Even when marching at an early hour, the animals should be watered and a small feed should be given before starting.

Every opportunity will be taken to water animals on the march.

3. Sufficient time should be allowed each morning for men to saddle up carefully, but on no account should animals be harnessed up or hooked in an unnecessarily long time before starting.

4. Mounted troops should usually trot when the ground is level and walk or lead when going up or down hill. The pace should never be faster than the regulation rate unless specially ordered. If the column is of any length, it should be slightly slower.

The last mile of a day's march should always be traversed at a walk so as to allow horses to cool; and at the end of a long march it is advisable to dismount and lead them for the last half mile to ease the pressure on their backs.

5. In cavalry the rate of marching should be about 6 miles an hour, including short halts, and when tactical considerations permit the following system of marching is suitable:—Mount after halt and trot 15 minutes, then walk 10 minutes, then trot 15 minutes, then lead 10 minutes, halt 10 minutes. This system can be varied according to circumstances.

6. In artillery the least fatiguing pace is a combination of a slow trot and a walk; the pace of the trot should never exceed 6 miles an hour.

7. Subordinate commanders should anticipate unavoidable checks and must observe all signals or words of command and pass them quickly and accurately down the column. Sufficient time must be allowed for a command to be passed down the column before a change of pace is made.

8. When horses are being led they should be kept as close to the edge of the road as possible, so as to avoid blocking the traffic. The tendency to string out must be avoided. Men leading animals will be on the off side.

9. To avoid tiring horses, the men should at all times sit square and steady in the saddle. No man should quit his stirrups, and when trotting the men should rise, changing the diagonal every mile or so. When dismounted, men armed with the rifle should never leave it on the saddle.

10. To enable men to look round their horses and saddles, a short halt should be made about a quarter or half an hour after starting, or as soon as the day has broken.

11. When the warning signal is given one minute before a halt, all vehicles should edge into the side of the road so that they may be closed in when they halt.

12. During any long halts, horses will be off-saddled or packs off-loaded and their backs hand-rubbed. During short halts, mounted men will dismount and saddle or pack loads

be eased or adjusted without orders. Whenever time permits, if only for a few minutes, pack loads will be removed, and, in the case of transport, poles dropped. A careful examination should be made of animals, harness, saddlery and vehicles at every halt, especially at the first one. N.C.Os. should pay particular attention to the following points:—

- i. That nose-bags are properly secured and do not leak.
- ii. That breast collars and breechings are not galling the horses, and that any alterations required in the fitting of harness and saddlery are made.
- iii. That the horses' feet are examined for stones and loose shoes.
- iv. That all articles on the vehicles are properly secured.

Teams will never be left without a driver standing at the head of the lead horses.

13. Horses should never be halted on a bridge, in a gateway or at a road junction.

14. At halts, officers' chargers, led and pack animals must be on the same side of the road as the rest of the column and will be backed in at right-angles to the road, with their heads facing the centre of the roadway.

15. A constant watch must be kept to see that all horses in a team are doing their fair share of work.

16. Men on horse-drawn vehicles (other than drivers), will sit in the correct places. They will be ordered to dismount when going up or down steep hills or over rough and heavy ground. In artillery, mounting and dismounting may be carried out at the walk but never at the trot.

When dismounted, men will march in the line of carriages or vehicles or clear of the road.

Sitting on the gun trail or perch of limbered G.S. wagons is prohibited.

## 90. Additional rules for dismounted troops

1. Troops may be formed into fours or threes for marching, according to the width of the road and the amount of traffic on it.

No officer, warrant officer or N.C.O. will march outside the column. Bicycles will not be allowed to project outside the column.

2. Every man in a four (or three) will change places after each 10 minutes' halt, the men originally on the inner flank



falling in on the outer flank and the remainder of the four moving to their left or right.

3. Men should never be allowed to double.

4. Organized singing on the march will be encouraged in every unit. It helps men to march well even when fatigued.

5. All men should understand how smoking on the march affects endurance and thirst is aggravated rather than reduced by frequent recourse to the water-bottle. Every endeavour must be made to develop self-discipline in the men, and officers and N.C.Os. must set an example in this respect.

6. Mounted officers should spend most of their time looking after the rear not the front of their units.

7. Every man will take off his equipment (anti-gas respirator excepted) each clock hour halt, and put it on at one minute before starting. Men should be practised in taking off and putting on equipment quickly. When the ground is dry they should be made to lie down during halts, and, if possible, raise their feet so as to relieve them of pressure and allow the blood to circulate.

8. Troops will fall in and stand at ease when the warning signal to start is given; on the command to advance they will come to attention and march off at the slope.

9. Men's feet will be inspected by platoon, etc., commanders immediately after every march.

#### 91. Additional rules for mechanical vehicles

1. Commanders of units and sub-units are responsible that all vehicles are ready for the road and that engines are started in sufficient time to ensure that there shall be no delay at the beginning of a march.

In normal weather drivers should parade at least half-an-hour before the time of marching, depending on the situation of the vehicle park, the condition of the parking ground and its proximity to the road.

2. A man will be detailed to ride at the rear of every vehicle to give the driver information of any vehicle wishing to pass, and to report stoppages in rear.

A motor cyclist should travel in rear of each unit or column to report break-downs and stoppages.

3. A M/T fitter should travel on one of the rearmost vehicles of a unit or column, to assist drivers of vehicles broken down to deal with minor faults and casualties.

4. All vehicles will carry two side lamps and a tail light; special attention must be paid to the latter, as it is the means of keeping touch at night.

5. Before a march begins, the drivers of all vehicles should know the destination and route.

6. The distances to be maintained between units, blocks, and vehicles vary in different arms and are laid down in Field Service Regulations, Vol. II; all N.C.Os. and drivers should know the distances laid down for their own unit.

These distances are maintained in order to prevent sudden checkings and acceleration, and to allow overtaking vehicles to pass; they must therefore be maintained as closely as the condition and gradient of the road permits.

7. Each unit or column will be led, and its pace set by an officer or N.C.O. on the leading vehicle. The speed should be uniform on the level, any variations being taken up gradually down the column.

When a column is approaching a town, level-crossing, etc., the leading vehicle will slow down to close up the column; when the rear of the column is clear, the speed of the leading vehicle will be increased to normal.

On approaching up grades, the leading vehicle will increase its pace to get a run at the hill, the remainder conforming; about 200 yards after passing the crest, the leading vehicle will gradually slow down so as to collect the column.

8. Vehicles passing dismounted troops should do so at a slow pace in order to minimize the discomfort caused them.

9. The commander of a unit or sub-unit will decide as to the appropriate time to overtake other traffic, taking into consideration the nature and width of the road, the amount of oncoming traffic and the length of his column, etc. The fact that the commander has decided to overtake does not absolve each individual driver from the responsibility of deciding when he can overtake with safety.

10. Double-banking of vehicles is strictly forbidden.

11. If the road is soft and muddy, non-skid chains or tracks should be fitted to all wheeled vehicles.

12. If a vehicle cannot keep its place in the convoy, the driver will pull in to the side of the road and signal on the vehicles behind him. If the defect is capable of rapid repair, the vehicle will follow the column as soon as it is repaired. If repair is not possible, the vehicle will either be taken in tow or left in charge of a N.C.O. or driver until the aid of a repair or first-aid lorry can be procured. In such cases the transport loads or stores of the disabled vehicle, if they are of an important or valuable nature, should be transferred to a spare vehicle.

13. If a vehicle breaks down in the fairway, it must immediately be hauled to the side of the road.

14. Turning about is often the cause of badly ditched vehicles. It should only be carried out on roads over 25 feet wide, when there is little traffic, and even then should rarely be attempted. One vehicle only must be turned at a time. It is nearly always better to make a complete circuit by leading the column round by another road, if turning places have not been provided.

15. When a column halts, it will close up to the distances laid down for the particular unit or type of vehicle (*see* para. 6, above).

Vehicles must pull in to the side of the road before halting and all engines will be shut off.

16. Vehicles will not be halted in the main streets of towns or villages, or on bridges or at road junctions; if it is absolutely necessary to halt astride a road junction, at least 15 yards should be left clear on either side of it.

17. A space should be left in the column for vehicles which have fallen out; vehicles rejoining a column at a halt will remain at the rear until given permission to move into their place.

18. The officer or N.C.O. in charge of each block of vehicles will post a man at each halt to control traffic passing the block.

19. All officers, N.C.Os. and drivers should take every opportunity of looking round the vehicles in their charge during halts, and of effecting minor adjustments and oiling where necessary; careful attention to vehicles in this way will reduce considerably the risk of break-down.

20. All drivers and personnel employed on traffic control duties must be thoroughly conversant with the Highway Code.

## 92. Compliments on the march

### WAR

1. No compliments will be paid during a march on service, unless specially ordered.

### PEACE

2. i. The procedure will be as follows when a body of troops passes:—

(a) The King, the Queen and other members of the Royal Family. (For guards, rounds and reliefs, *see* Sec. 77, 5.)

(b) Armed bodies of troops on the march, commanded by an officer.

(c) Guards, escorts, etc.

(d) Their own brigade commander (or C.R.A. in artillery) and general officers and officers of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force of equivalent ranks, when in uniform.

The commander of the unit or detachment will give the order to march at attention.

Compliments will then be paid by troops, platoons, etc. (or squadrons, companies, etc., if they are too weak to parade in troops or platoons). In such cases the commanders of these bodies will give the command *Eyes—Right* (or *left*). (In horsed artillery the commands are repeated in succession by Nos. 1). All officers will salute and also other ranks if in command of troops, etc.

Small bodies of troops not commanded by officers will pay compliments to all officers.

ii. Unarmed bodies of troops passing each other will be called to attention and compliments will be paid as in para. 2, i, above.

iii. The officer in command of an armed party will return the salute of a N.C.O. in charge of an unarmed party of less than 20 men (*see* King's Regulations), but will not call the armed party to attention.

3. When in command of a party, armed or unarmed, an officer will salute any officer in uniform he passes of a rank senior to himself; also officers of senior rank of other services.

4. Compliments paid by guards and sentries will be returned as in para. 2, above.

5. Bodies of troops on the march or on trailing will only pay compliments to higher commands once a day. At other times the commander only will salute his seniors.

On other occasions, when the frequent paying of compliments is likely to cause fatigue to the troops, brigade commanders, etc., will use their discretion and issue orders on the subject beforehand.

6. When persons entitled to salutes approach from the rear, compliments will not be paid; but officers will salute.

This will not apply in the case of those members of the Royal Family to whom compliments are paid; in this case troops will be ordered to march at attention.

7. Troops will march at attention until clear of as well as when approaching their parade ground.

# PLATE I SALUTING TO THE FRONT



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FIG. 1.  
THE DIAGONAL MARCH

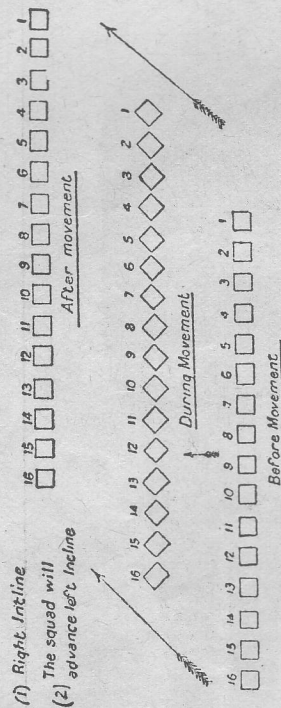


FIG. 3.  
FORMING SQUAD  
On the Left. Form — Squad.

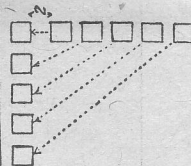


FIG. 2.  
CHANGING DIRECTION  
At the Halt. Right — Form.

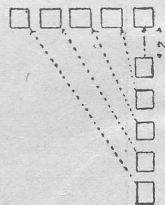


PLATE III

FORMATION OF FOURS

Fig. 1.

*Squad with an odd file.*

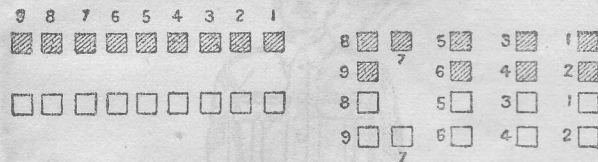


Fig. 2.

*Squad with a Blank odd file.*

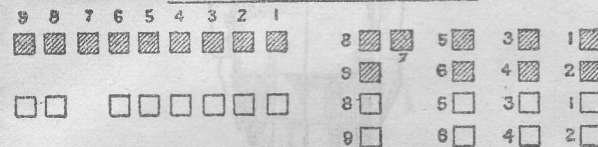


Fig. 3.

*Squad with a Blank even file.*

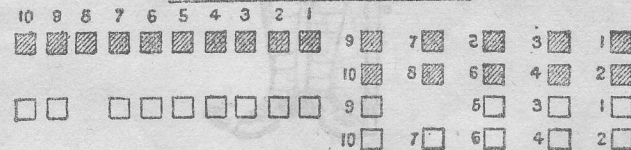


PLATE IV  
THE ORDER

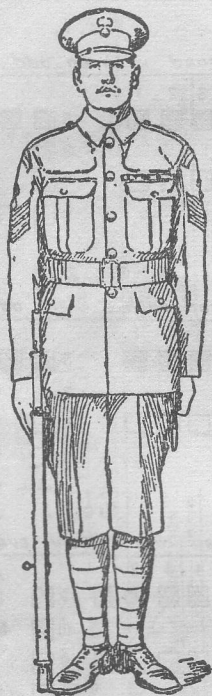


PLATE V  
THE SLOPE



PLATE VI  
THE PRESENT



PLATE VII  
FIXING BAYONETS  
(AT " TWO " ), REAR RANK



PLATE VIII  
UNFIXING BAYONETS  
(AT " ONE " )





PLATE IX

THE TRAIL



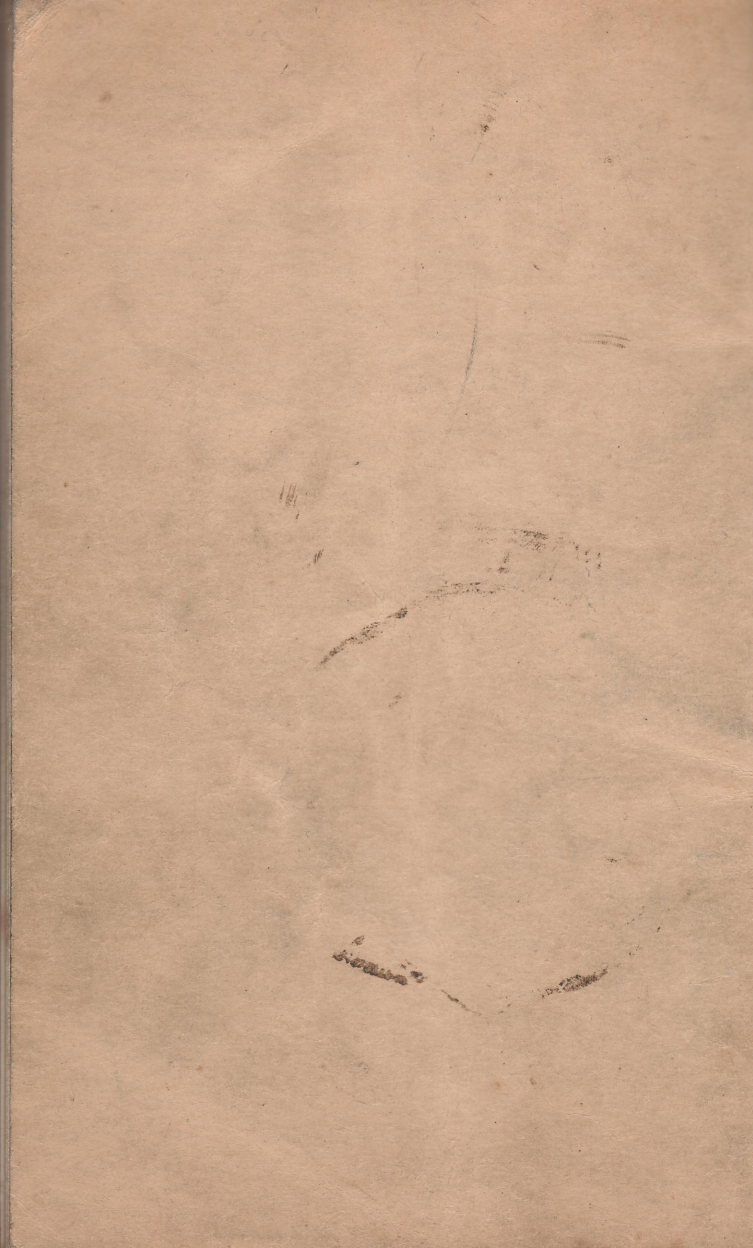
PLATE X

FOR INSPECTION DRAW ARMS



*PLATE XI*  
EXAMINE ARMS









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